

# Metropolitan News

Copyright © 1987 The New York Times

NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, CONNECTICUT / THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1987

L

B1

## Cuomo's Proposed Budget Draws Criticism

By JEFFREY SCHMALZ

Special to The New York Times

ALBANY, Jan. 21 — Less than 24 hours after Governor Cuomo proposed a \$40.9 billion budget for the fiscal year that begins April 1, the plan was widely assailed today by Democrats and Republicans alike, who demanded greater tax cuts.

Democratic lawmakers, who rarely criticize the Governor at all, used unusually strong language — a sign that the legislative session might be an especially contentious one this year, at a time when Albany will be under greater scrutiny nationwide as Mr. Cuomo decides whether to seek the Democratic nomination for President.

Saying that the Governor's proposals would mandate "artificial" budget-monitoring devices that "usurp the legal responsibilities of the Legislature," the State Senate's Democratic leader, Manfred Ohrenstein, declared, "We believe there is room in the budget to accommodate additional tax cuts."

The Senate majority leader, Warren M.

### Greater tax cuts are demanded by state lawmakers.

Anderson, a Binghamton Republican, said, "I wouldn't go so far as to say that Governor Cuomo's budget was dead on arrival in the Legislature, but I will say that a budget of this magnitude without a significant cut in state taxes is simply not acceptable."

In a board vote tonight, an \$8.6 billion plan to rebuild New York City's mass-transit system was blocked. [Page B5.]

In the Assembly, Mel Miller, a Brooklyn Democrat who took over this month as the Speaker, rejected Mr. Cuomo's renewed call in his budget plan for a statutory ceiling on the rate of spending increases each year, saying the Governor's budget pre-

sentation "reinforced my opposition to the cap."

The Speaker said the cap, which would limit spending growth to a percentage of the growth in personal income, could lead to lower state spending in times of recession. He said that was exactly when increased spending might be needed because of a greater demand for social-service and job-training programs.

### Not Ruling Out Tax Cuts

Mr. Miller reserved judgment on further tax cuts. But he said it was too soon to rule them out, as Mr. Cuomo has done, and he added that the Governor's projection for how much extra in taxes the state would take in as a result of the new Federal tax code "may be too low."

Behind today's comments lay a crazy quilt of political considerations. Senate and Assembly Republicans, aware that Mr. Cuomo is trying to ease any perception of himself around the country as a big spender, sense they can win further tax

Continued on Page B5



The New York Times/David Jennings

Governor Cuomo yesterday in Albany, where he presented his budget to the Legislature.