

Senate/Assembly One-House Budget Bill Phone Script

Guidelines:

- Identify yourself and explain your relationship with the Legislator. Then, ask to speak with her/him.
- You may be transferred to the Legislator's phone line, to talk with her/him or be instructed to leave a message. Alternatively, a staffer may ask to take a message.
- Whether leaving a message, or if connected, reintroduce yourself.
- When finished, don't forget a message of thanks for the time.
- (Should you have a conversation, and you're looking for background information on the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition, locate them at [NPCNYS Advocacy Resources](#). You can offer these to your legislator by attaching them in an email.)

[Phone rings]

Staffer/Receptionist: Hello, **Senator/Assemblymember's** office, how may I assist you?

You: Hi, my name is **Name** from **Organization**, and I'm calling as a constituent from **Legislator's District**. May I speak with **Senator/Assemblymember Name** about the budget bill and its impact on neighborhood preservation?

Staffer/Receptionist: May I ask what this is regarding?

You: Yes, of course. **Organization** is part of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition, a network of 130 community nonprofits providing critical housing assistance. We're on the frontlines helping New Yorkers who are at risk of housing instability, and I'm calling to talk to **Senator/Assemblymember Name** about **the Senate's/Assembly's** budget bill.

Staffer/Receptionist: I see. Please hold for a moment.

(You're placed on hold and either connected to the legislator or an aide.)

Continued

Legislator or Aide: Hello, this is **Legislator, Staff**, speaking. How can I assist you?

You: Hello **Legislator/Aide's Name**, my name is **Name** from **Organization**, and I appreciate you taking the time to speak with me today. I'm calling to express my gratitude for the **Senate's/ Assembly's** budget bill, which invests \$20.68 million in funding for the Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) and includes the \$275,000 carve-out for the Coalition

Legislator or Aide: How can I help?

You: Your efforts has been instrumental in addressing the significant deficit proposed in the Governor's budget, which would have cut our funding by 33%.

Aide or Legislator: We understand . . .

You: **Senator/Assemblymember Name**, this critical funding is the lifeline that enables the Coalition to bolster our neighborhood preservation companies across the state, ensuring they continue to thrive and serve our communities. We urge you to stand firm in budget negotiations to ensure this funding remains intact, as it is vital to preserving neighborhoods across the state.

If Aide: Thank you for calling. We will share this with **Senator/Assemblymember's Name**.

If Legislator: **They will respond accordingly.**

You: We appreciate your leadership and continued support for the Neighborhood Preservation Program. Thank you for your time.

Aide: Thank you. Have a great day.

You: You too. Goodbye.

[End of call]

If you think the aide or Legislator would like information, fit into your conversation:

"I'd be happy to send additional background on our organization if that would be helpful." (if so, download them from the [Advocacy page on the NPCNYS website](#) and attach to an email to send to the legislator' office.)