

Strategies to Deal with the Prospect of 9(C) Cuts

As soon as you hear that 9(C) cuts are being discussed, start your campaign to protect your interests and the services you advocate for or use as a consumer. Your job is to convince the Governor and his/her advisors that they should avoid making 9(C) cuts in the line item appropriations that fund the services you care about.

What can you do to AVOID 9(C) cuts?

- Calculate the impact and harm that would result if 9(C) cuts occurred. Identify cost avoidance associated with your appropriation. Use this information along with all of the other facts you already have identified to defend your appropriation.
- Send a letter to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of Administration and Finance, Secretary and Commissioner overseeing this account making the case for why your services or interest should be exempt from 9(C) cuts.
- Put a face on the funding. Profiles of real people should tell your story and illustrate the importance of your service.
- Develop a packet of material to use with your legislative supporters and allies.
- Inform your Legislative Champions. Let them know what you are doing and ask them to engage with you to convince the Governor to hold your appropriation harmless from the 9(C) knife.
- Engage other allies in your efforts to impact the Governor.
- Develop and implement a press strategy, if appropriate and if it would have a positive impact.
- If you are a grant based provider of services, request your quarterly payments as soon as you can do so. Otherwise get your billing in as soon as possible.
- Consider protective line item language and legislation to use for further protection in future budget or legislative campaigns.
- Advocate for use of Rainy Day Funds and measures to increase revenues.