

Queens Civic Congress welcomes the Governor's attention to our community's health care concerns. See our letter to public officials and local hospitals and Assembly Member Bill Scarborough's letter to NYS Health Commissioner Richard Daines. Queens Civic Congress hopes a series of meetings, including some public events, bring attention and results.

-Corey Bearak, President

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Paterson speaks at St. Albans town hall

by AnnMarie Costella, Chronicle Reporter

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You can't spend what you don't have — that was the message Gov. David Paterson reiterated several times as he answered questions from community members at a town hall meeting on Wednesday at the Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center in St. Albans.

The crowd of more than 200 grilled Paterson on issues that ranged from healthcare to budget cuts during the two-hour-long session moderated by WBSL radio personality Bob Lee.

On the topic of healthcare, Paterson addressed two important issues — the recent hospital closures in Queens, as well as national healthcare reform. The governor said that both Mary Immaculate and St. John's hospitals closed because they refused to answer questions about their financial records in a bankruptcy hearing, which is “a sure way of telling you there was corruption.”

He vowed to work diligently to prevent other financially distressed hospitals from closing and to address the healthcare gap in Queens.

Read the entire article at http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20394751&BRD=2731&PAG=461&dept_id=574905&rfi=

