UUP 2007-2008 Legislation and Political Action Manual

United University Professions

United University Professions
The Nation's Largest Higher Education Union -
Working For You!

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How Can UUP Members Participate in Political Action?

- *Meet in Albany with Legislators*
  - Every Tuesday during the legislative session, UUP Activists from across the state come to Albany to make our voice heard in state politics. Members are bused from headquarters to the Capitol where they go to pre-arranged meetings with their legislators. Lunch is provided, and at the end of the day UUP members are bused back to headquarters for a debriefing. For further details, see pages 6-7.

- *Meet in Districts with Legislators*
  - Chapter offices will set up district meetings with your legislators. These are similar to Albany meetings, except with the convenience of your own district. For further details, see pages 8-9.

- *Participate in Chapter Events for Legislators*
  - Chapters may organize events for legislators, such as luncheons, picnics, cocktail parties, or other creative ideas. Attendance at these events is a great way to gain informal access to your legislators, and make UUP's voice heard in Albany. For further details, see pages 8-9.

- *Send Letters and Faxes about Important Issues*
  - UUP sends out email alerts on important issues, and our Web site is kept up to date on our latest e-campaigns. An important part of our political action is participation in these campaigns – a "click a day" gets our issues heard at the State Legislature. Chapters may also host letter-writing parties to send hand written memos on important issues to Albany. For further details, see pages 10-13.

- *Participate in the NYSUT Endorsement Process*
  - A great way to get our issues heard is to get our candidates in office. This is done through the NYSUT endorsement process. For further details, see pages 14-15.

- *Participate in Statewide UUP Events*
  - Examples include Albany advocacy days, rallies, and letter-writing campaigns.

UUP Advocacy Techniques

As an advocate, you provide an important informational service to legislators and their staffs. Your visit provides legislators and their staff direct contact with their community and the opinions of their constituents. Your legislators have as much reason to see you as you have to see them. Here are some helpful suggestions for effective advocacy:

1. **Devise a few central points** that you want to make during your meeting with the legislator, but not too many of them. If possible, a copy of material to be discussed in the meeting should be sent to the legislator prior to the meeting.

2. **Form teams consisting of a leader, a reporter and an expediter.**

   The *leader* is the person who sets the tone of the meeting. The leader establishes a rapport with the legislator. *He or she is friendly and courteous, and never shows hostility even to an obviously unsympathetic politician*. The leader discusses the questions with the legislator, as objectively as possible, sometimes rewording and interpreting as necessary.

   The *reporter* is a listener. After greeting the legislator and/or his or her staff, the reporter keeps in the background. The reporter concentrates on being perceptive and remembering as much as possible. *It is recommended that the reporter **not** take notes during the interview, because a flying pen often inhibits free discussion*. The reporter listens not only to what is being said in words; but also looks for what is implied.

   The *expediter* has either a big job or a small one depending on how the conversation is going. If the meeting seems off on a tangent, the expediter can courteously interrupt with phrases like "You said a moment ago that ... or "Did you mean ..." *The expediter keeps the meeting moving*, and could signal its change of pace or termination. *Warning: The expediter does not stifle a discussion that is providing some insights even though it is off the track, but keeps the conversation from meandering.*

3. **During the visit**:
   - Thank the legislator for his/her past support.
   - Know the facts and always have written materials to leave.
   - Get your point of view across in the fewest possible words.
   - Do not be afraid to admit ignorance and never make up answers. Find out the answer after the visit and report back to the legislator.
   - Leave on a friendly note even if the meeting did not go as well as you had hoped. If you have a good rapport with a legislator, ask for his or her advice or assistance in reaching out to other legislators.
   - Be sure to thank the legislator for taking the time out of his or her busy schedule to meet with you even if he or she does not support your position.

- Always leave the door open for another visit.

- Immediately after the visit the team should discuss the meeting and develop a written record of the visit and forward it to the Legislation Department at UUP.

- Send follow-up letter(s) to legislator(s) thanking them for the visit and re-stating the points you made during the meeting.

4. **Explain Your Position**
   It does not take an expert to predict the impact of legislation. As a union member, a taxpayer, or a consumer, say in your own words how a bill or amendment will affect you. Do not forget that a bill can change as it moves through the legislative process. Be sure to urge your legislator to oppose crippling amendments or to support strengthening ones.

5. **Ask for a Response**
   Urge your legislator to act in support or opposition to a particular bill, to co-sponsor an amendment or to take whatever legislative action you deem necessary. Feel free to request a written response from the legislator addressing your concerns, but <u>always</u> be courteous.

Key Points for Successful Advocacy

1. Do not argue with the legislator.

2. Arrive on time and do not prolong the interview beyond the agreed-upon duration.

3. Do not let the legislator interview you personally; keep the discussion on the business at hand.

4. Do not attempt to extract rash promises or negotiate with the legislator.

5. Do not comment on answers, except to clarify your position where it has been misunderstood.

Remember!

Be Brief
Be Clear
Be Polite

Local Advocacy

The essential feature of district advocacy is the constituency contact with the representative. Representatives pay special attention to constituents who visit their district office, and such visits provide an opportunity to personalize our advocacy efforts. District Advocacy is especially important now that the New York State Temporary Commission on Lobbying has created stricter rules and penalties for individuals who spend more than $2,000 on lobbying efforts. District Advocacy is a better choice because it costs less than traveling to and staying in Albany, and legislators often have more time to spend with our volunteer advocates.

▪ Activities

Activities may include:

- informal meetings arranged at the convenience of the legislator and/or their staff
- office visits
- attendance at fund-raising activities
- having chapter legislative receptions
- inviting legislators to chapter meetings
- ask legislators to give speeches on campus
- meetings with the legislative staff
- physical presence at public forums sponsored by the legislators with questions and comments on behalf of UUP, when appropriate
- other related activities such as inviting legislators or their staff members to campus events such as cultural programs (ask for complimentary tickets for a legislator), visiting lecturers, debates, athletic events, etc.
- advertise by buying bulletin board space and putting the UUP message on it
- building coalitions

▪ Feedback

Be sure to provide timely feedback to the chapter legislative chair and regional coordinators as well as the UUP Outreach Committee Co-Chairs, and submit a UUP Legislative District Report immediately after each district activity or visit with a legislator and/or staff.

You don't need to travel to Albany to see your legislator!
It is important that you talk with your legislators not only in Albany, but in their home districts as well. District Advocacy is a critical part of the UUP advocacy effort.

Keys to Building Relationships in the District

- *Conversation Openers*. During your initial visit, look around your legislators' office for clues on who they are and what they are interested in (pictures, books, photos). Who are they shaking hands with in photos? Do you know anyone in common? These are brief conversation openers that should be used after introductions, but before business.

- *Offer Your Services*. This is a reciprocal relationship. Establish that you are a resource for your legislator. You represent a large voting constituency and can provide him/her with visibility and access to the public. You have valuable information on how the constituency is or will be affected by certain legislation, how the constituency is likely to react, and what the impact will be on the community. You may be more knowledgeable in the subject area than the legislator.

- *Listen*. Legislators enjoy speaking with constituents. A good conversation is far more valuable than a lecture. Spend as much time listening as you do presenting information and discussing UUP positions. Be sympathetic to their concerns and needs (which is not the same as agreeing). Your legislator may be trying to tell you something indirectly about sensitive information.

- *Confide in Your Legislator*. Ask legislators for advice on strategy or tactics. Who do they recommend to contact? What advice do they have to give? If a legislator provides potentially sensitive information or asks for your opinion, remember you represent UUP and your response will be gauged in that context. Remember, DO NOT make negative comments about any other individual or discuss anything in elevators or reception areas you don't want the legislator to hear. Always be friendly and courteous to all staff members and aides. Your legislator has friends in many places.

- *Follow Up*. Always follow up with a note of thanks and any information you promised to send. Maintain contact with legislators – send a card during an illness or family tragedy. If legislators are getting bashed in the press, express your support. Keep in touch throughout the legislative session, but DO NOT waste your legislator's time.

- *Keep a Record*. Record any useful information you may have gained from your visit about your legislator, including personal information, degree, schools attended, area of study and profession. Also, record everything that transpired in your conversation. DO NOT take notes during your visit or discussion, but record everything after. Review this material before your next visit.

- *Always Leave the "Door Open" for Another Visit!*

Using the Web for Political Action

With a computer and Web access, you can send your legislators e-mails and faxes using the UUP, NYSUT and AFT Web sites.

From the UUP Web site: http://www.uupinfo.org
UUP will post updated links to the NYSUT Legislation Department Web site for you to fax your legislator. Once there, follow the directions on the NYSUT site.

From the NYSUT Web site: http://www.nysut.org
On the NYSUT Web site click on "Legistlative Action Center" on the left hand side of the screen. Next click "Contact Your Elected Officials," on the left hand side of the page. Then, click on "Fax your New York State Legislators" on the left side of the screen. Next, you will be prompted to type in your zip code (to locate the appropriate legislators) and check the letter you want to fax. After clicking, "Fax Letters", you will be prompted to fill in a form with your name and address (see below). When you finish filling in the form, click on the "send" button on the bottom of the page.

From the AFT Web site: http://www.aft.org
On the AFT Web site click on "Legislative Action Center" on the left hand side of the page. Once there you see a box to enter your zip code on the right hand side. Enter your zip code and you will be brought to a tabbed gallery of your elected legislators. You can send a message by clicking "send message" under the legislator's picture.

Suggestions for Letter Writing Campaigns

- **Appoint a committee** to organize the campaign and recruit volunteers to staff the tables.

- **Solidarity!** Work with other groups that share the goals of our campaign. Join forces with students, parents of students, alumni, friends in the community, and members of other SUNY employee unions.

- **Chapters** may want to write letters to the editor of their community newspaper asking for participation in the campaign. Working in the labor/management arena, chapters may be able to get articles placed in alumni newsletters and procure addresses for parents and students for direct mail appeal.

- **Use signs or posters** to encourage participation.

- **Hold membership meetings** and provide written background to members to help them write. During a letter-writing campaign, any membership meeting provides an opportunity and an audience of potential letter writers. Some chapters combine letter writing with previously scheduled union activities.

- **Set up tables** in central locations on campus. Provide blank paper, envelopes, pens, and addresses. A map showing districts is also helpful.

- **Urge people** to sit down and write letters on the spot. If they take information, promising to write letters, they may not do so.

A Tip!

Personal letters are the most productive, followed by postcards, with form letters having the least impact. Letters should be brief and to the point, including examples of campus impact and home addresses. Do not use SUNY stationary! Urge people to identify themselves as UUP members, and be sure they mention the name of the campus where they work. Provide sample letters, but it is better if writers use their own words.

Letter Writing Tips

Why Should You Write?

Demonstrate your concern: legislators are more likely to respond when you follow their voting records throughout the session, not just during an election year.

Convey your interest: legislators make decisions every day that affect union members and their families – decisions on state aid to public education, public employee pensions, economic policy, consumer and environmental protection.

Defend yourself: legislators constantly hear from other interest groups that do not necessarily have your best interests in mind.

What should you include in the letter?

1. ***Address it properly:***

Representative _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Senator _____
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Assemblymember _____
New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

Senator _____
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

2. ***Identify yourself*****:** mention the legislative district in which you are registered, particularly when writing to your own legislators. Constituent letters carry greater impact with lawmakers. Mention your union affiliation as well.

3. ***Be specific*****:** when writing about legislation, use the bill number (A1000, HR10, etc) or the bill title (the Labor Law Reform Bill), if you know it. If not, briefly describe the issue that concerns you.

4. ***Be timely*****:** write when the issue is current, not after a key vote has been taken. Events move rapidly in the legislative world, so act immediately when you are advised to do so.

5. ***Explain your position*****:** it does not take an expert to predict the impact of legislation. As a union member, taxpayer, or a consumer, state in your own words how a bill or amendment will affect you. Do not forget that a bill can change as it moves through the legislative process. So, urge your legislator to oppose crippling amendments or support strengthening ones.

6. ***Ask for a response:*** urge your legislator to act – to support or oppose a bill, to co-sponsor an amendment, or to take other action. Request, but do not demand, a reply to your letter. This information will be helpful in future advocacy efforts.

Sample Letter

Dear _____:

As a SUNY employee and a participant in the Optional Retirement Program (ORP), I am writing to urge you to sign into law A.8447 by Assemblyman Abbate. This legislation amends the Education Law to provide for a three-year phase-in of the employer “pick-up” of employee contributions to the Optional Retirement Program (ORP) for employees with 10 or more years of membership in the program.

In order to unlock SUNY's full potential and move it closer to becoming the finest university system in the nation, the state must invest in its faculty. Enacting this legislation will provide ORP members the pension equity that they deserve and will make SUNY more competitive by enabling it to recruit and retain the best and brightest faculty.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Remember

Be Brief - Write about one bill or issue at a time. Do not ramble on or write a laundry list of legislative problems. A one-page letter will surely be read and is most effective.

Be Legible - If it is a handwritten letter, you might write a draft first and then make a second copy which is neater and shorter. Make it easy to read.

Be Polite - Do not be threatening, demanding or abusive. This will negate the effectiveness of your letter.

Do Not be a Pen Pal - Write on selected important issues. Quality, not quantity, is what counts. Do not wear out your welcome.

NYSUT's Endorsement Process

The key to successful political action and achievement of NYSUT's legislative goals is the election of pro-education, pro-labor candidates to the State Legislature and the U.S. Congress. To accomplish this, we must determine who our "friends" are, support their election campaigns with volunteer workers, phone banks and financial assistance, and make our legislative needs known once our representatives have taken office.

Guidelines for Political Endorsements for NYSUT
These guidelines enable NYSUT to achieve a consensus on political endorsements and to avoid situations that might create serious internal division. For the same reason, the guidelines emphasize that endorsement or opposition shall be made solely on the basis of each candidate's record on labor and educational issues without regard to party affiliation.

Initiation of a request for endorsement shall be made in writing in the following way:

1. By the president or secretary of a local, giving specific reasons for endorsement.
2. By an officer or board member of NYSUT.

Requests for NYSUT endorsements shall be referred to the Political Action Committee (PAC) for recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Recommendations for political endorsement by the PAC shall be based upon:

1. Consideration of endorsement of those incumbents whose records have substantially supported NYSUT's legislative program.
2. Consideration of opposition to those incumbents whose records are overwhelming in opposition to NYSUT's program, if the opponent's platform is closer to NYSUT's.
3. Consideration of making no endorsement in contests with no incumbents involved, in which both candidates support NYSUT policies and interests, or where the locality does not wish to endorse.

Reports of the PAC shall be made in time for action in either a primary campaign or in a November election. Endorsement of a candidate shall be published in the *New York Teacher* with the reasons in support. Any additional support will depend on budgetary considerations.

A list of all endorsements shall be forwarded to VOTE/COPE: The Committee on Political Education of the New York State United Teachers. No changes in endorsement of NYSUT-endorsed candidates for public office shall be made, except in the most serious cases. There shall be an automatic review of the endorsement of any NYSUT-endorsed candidate who loses a major political party's primary. Such changes of endorsement require approval of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meeting in regular or special session.

While the authority to make political endorsements is vested in the NYSUT Board of Directors, the endorsement procedure reflects NYSUT's commitment to grassroots involvement through its local leaders.

The Mechanics of the NYSUT Endorsement Procedure

Every NYSUT local is invited to participate in the biannual Local Presidents' Conference on Endorsements. This meeting is traditionally held in Albany in August preceding a general election. Local presidents are invited to attend, but may send a representative in their place if they cannot attend. NYSUT funds the attendance of the local president or alternate to the endorsement conference, so that no local is denied representation for financial reasons.

NYSUT's Legislative Department compiles voting records, its major support bills for incumbents, background data on committee assignments, and other pertinent information. This material is presented to NYSUT's Political Action Committee (PAC) for review and tentative endorsement recommendations.

Local presidents attending the Endorsement Conference are placed into regional groups to review the voting records of legislators in their area. The tentative endorsement recommendation of the NYSUT PAC is discussed, and a vote is taken to confirm or reject the recommendation. Before adjourning, each regional group prepares a report of its actions, and forwards the report to the NYSUT PAC.

The NYSUT PAC reconvenes and reviews the reports from the regional groups. In the overwhelming majority of races, the PAC's endorsement recommendation is accepted by the regional groups. In those cases where the PAC recommendation is rejected, a discussion of the candidates, including additional information provided by the regional group, is conducted before an agreement on endorsement recommendation is reached.

The NYSUT PAC recommendations are then presented to the NYSUT Board of Directors for action. The Board reviews the recommendations and votes on making the endorsements official NYSUT policy. In rare cases, the Board will delay action to allow time for further clarification of a candidate's positions or to verify information presented at the Endorsement conference. The results of the "follow up" are then presented to the Board for action on the endorsement recommendations.

The names of endorsed candidates appear in the *New York Teacher* and other appropriate NYSUT publications. The endorsement list is distributed to NYSUT regional offices for use in local phone bank campaigns. For further publicity, local presidents may also wish to contact local newspapers with information on area endorsements

NYSUT does not do official press releases. A NYSUT endorsement brings with it publicity, campaign workers, and if necessary, financial assistance in the form of direct campaign contributions or in-kind campaign support.

No changes in endorsements, once made, shall be made except for the most serious reasons. There shall be an automatic review of any NYSUT-endorsed candidate who loses a major political party's primary. Such changes of endorsement shall require approval of the NYSUT Executive Committee and Board of Directors meeting in regular or special session.

VOTE/COPE

What is VOTE/COPE?

VOTE/COPE is the political action arm of UUP's powerful state affiliate, the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT). It provides a commanding, united voice for UUP and NYSUT to conduct statewide and grassroots lobbying efforts. *VOTE/COPE gets results*. For example, VOTE/COPE contributions helped to put Charles Schumer and Hillary Rodham Clinton, supporters of public education, in office. The UUP contributions to the VOTE/COPE fund were also used to pay for media advertising to increase support for SUNY. On issues ranging from educational excellence to retirement benefits, VOTE/COPE speaks out strongly on your behalf. United University Professions believes such political activism is crucial for SUNY not only to survive – but to thrive. VOTE/COPE funds support advocacy efforts on a local level by providing for such things as travel expenses to attend regional public meetings.

A nonpartisan effort, VOTE/COPE stands for the Voice of Teachers in Education/Committee on Political Education. Created by UUP and NYSUT, VOTE/COPE raised more than $6.3 million last year in voluntary contributions, enhancing UUP's credibility and clout in the legislative arena.

Why should you support VOTE/COPE?

Quite simply, because sheer numbers speak to decision-makers in ways that single voices cannot. VOTE/COPE strengthens your support of educational excellence.

In recent years, SUNY has been under siege on many fronts: budget cuts, limited access by students, threatened closings of entire campus centers. VOTE/COPE leads the fight for survival, and beyond that, for continued growth and excellence.

Through support of VOTE/COPE, UUP also increases its voice in the affairs of its affiliate. But most importantly, VOTE/COPE gives UUP members a powerful opportunity to speak out on critical issues and decisions affecting the future of public higher education.

Does VOTE/COPE benefit you?

YES, if your chapter sponsors legislative activity funded by VOTE/COPE.

YES, if you believe New York needs to increase funding for the State University.

YES, if you are concerned about your retirement years and improved pension benefits.

YES, if you care about safety in the workplace.

YES, if you believe in excellence in education.

Who can you contact about VOTE/COPE?

UUP VOTE/COPE Coordinator: Tom Tucker: 716-645-6754. Ttucker@buffalo.edu

Where Does VOTE/COPE Money Go?

40% - Rebates to Chapters: 20% of last year's VOTE/COPE contributions are made automatically to all locals contributing $100 or more. Additionally, upon request, locals may receive a local educational issues rebate of up to 20% to use in school budget vote and school board elections.

20% - Major Political Committees: VOTE/COPE makes contributions directly to General Political Committees in order to maximize influence with various party leaders. This enables legislative leaders to move individual members into support of NYSUT positions.

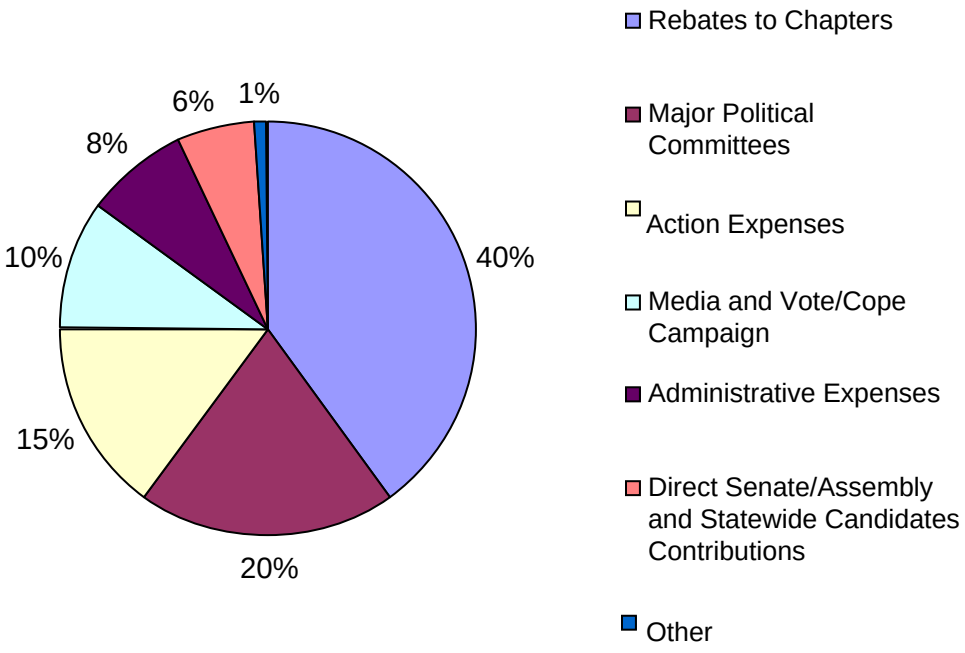
15% - Legislative and Political Action Expenses: Expenses incurred in the production of regional VOTE/COPE political action activities.

10% - Media and VOTE/COPE Campaigns: Radio, television and print media purchased as part of NYSUT's lobbying efforts on state aid to public education.

8% - VOTE/COPE Administrative Expenses: Expenditures made in connection with running the VOTE/COPE drive such as processing contributions, and expenditures.

6% - Senate/Assembly and Statewide Candidates Direct Contributions: This represents contributions and ticket purchases made to individual candidates endorsed by NYSUT/UUP. Statewide includes candidates for Governor, Lt. Governor, Comptroller, and Attorney General.

1% - Other



New York State's Budget Process: A System Driven by the Executive

According to the State Constitution, the Governor is required to seek and coordinate requests from agencies of State government, develop a "complete" plan of proposed expenditures and the revenues available to support them, and submit a budget to the Legislature along with the appropriation bills and other legislation required to carry out budgetary recommendations. The Governor is also required by the State Finance Law to manage the budget through administrative actions during the fiscal year.

June-September/October: Agency Budget Preparation

Individual agencies receive a "call letter" from the Director of the Division of the Budget (DOB), which outlines the Governor's priorities for that fiscal year and also notifies agency heads of any expected fiscal restraints. The agencies then formulate their own budget proposals.

September/October-December: Division of the Budget Review

Each agency formulates its respective budget and submits it to the DOB. The DOB reviews each request, obtains any further information it may need from each agency, and proceeds to hold informal non-public budget hearings where an agency head has the opportunity to discuss the agency's proposal. While hearings are held, the Legislature participates in a series of meetings with Executive staff to discuss the economic outlook, revenue forecasts, projected spending, the impact of State and Federal statutes, and any other relevant matters.

November-January: The Governor's Decisions

Based on the preliminary recommendations, political considerations, and the most current reading of the economic and fiscal environment, the final Executive Budget recommendations are formulated in a series of meetings between DOB staff and the Governor and his staff. These sessions focus on major fiscal and policy issues and may lead to significant revisions in agency budgets.

January-March: Legislative Action

In his State of the State Address (delivered the first Wednesday in January), the Governor offers a preview of his budget proposal. The Governor presents his Executive Budget Proposal, budget bills and documentation to the Assembly and Senate. Primarily through its fiscal committees—Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means—the Legislature analyzes the Executive spending proposals and revenue estimates, holds public hearings, and seeks any further information it may need to take action. In an attempt to bridge the gaps between them and to include more input from rank and file members, both houses have recently agreed to use a Conference Committee process where legislators from each house meet together to hash out their budgetary differences. If both houses agree on appropriation bills as submitted by the Governor, the bills automatically become law without further action. However, the Governor is constitutionally authorized to use a line item veto on any items added by the Legislature.

During this Legislative review stage of the budget process, UUP legislative and political action is critical. UUP is one of many organizations concerned about state funding, in this case for the SUNY system. In order to distinguish itself from the rest and to monitor this process, UUP volunteer advocates stay in contact with legislators on a regular basis.

March/April: Budget Execution

Upon the approval of all appropriation bills by the Legislature, the budget must then be officially executed. Execution starts when the DOB approves "certificates of allocation" informing the State Comptroller that accounts may be established as specified in the certificates and that vouchers drawn against the accounts may be honored.

In addition, the DOB keeps a close watch throughout the year on the flow of revenue and the pattern of expenditures against its projections. This information is reflected in quarterly updates of the Financial Plan which are provided to the Legislature.

Source: The 1999-2000 New York State Executive Budget, Appendix I.

2007 UUP Outreach Committee Roster

Name	Chapter	E-mail	Home Phone	Office Phone	Committee Title
Josephine P. Adamo	Buffalo State	adamojp@buffalostate.edu	(716) 876-2254	(716) 878-5223	
Patricia W. Bentley	Plattsburgh	pbentley@uupmail.org	(518) 561-5327	(518) 564-5202	
Jacqualine G. Berger	Empire State College	jacqui.berger@esc.edu	(716) 839-1224	(716) 686-7831	
Michael J. Bonvento	Stony Brook HSC	michael.bonvento@sunysb.edu	(631) 675-6130	(631) 444-9231	
William R. Borgstede	ESF	adkbill@esf.edu		(315) 470-6796	
Peter G. Bradford	Buffalo HSC	pgb@buffalo.edu	(716) 636-0391	(716) 829-2110	
Shawn P. Brislin	Delhi	brislisp@delhi.edu	(607) 436-9175	(607) 746-4233	
Margaret A. Bryant	Stony Brook HSC	mbryan@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	(631) 472-6672		
Charles Callahan III	Brockport	ccallaha@brockport.edu	(585) 637-8123	(585) 395-5519	
Mary Ann Casarella	Buffalo Center	mollycas@buffalo.edu	(716) 689-7407		
Violeta Cuenca	Upstate Medical	cuencav@upstate.edu	(315) 473-1249	(315) 464-5685	
David G. Curry	Plattsburgh	david.curry@plattsburgh.edu	(518) 561-2139	(518) 564-4245	
Kennedy Lee Davis	Upstate Medical	davisk@upsate.edu	(315) 475-4080	(315) 464-7826	
Gideon A. Dunkley Jr.	Brooklyn HSC		(718) 681-8920		
David V. Ecker	Stony Brook	david.ecker@sunysb.edu	(631) 331-6840	(631) 632-9800	
Jose L. Feliciano	Stony Brook	jose.feliciano@sunysb.edu	(631) 567-2479	(631) 632-8069	
Matthew J. Flynn	Canton	flynnm@canton.edu			
Michael A. Formato	Buffalo Center	formato@buffalo.edu	(716) 876-0265	(716) 645-6898	
David C. Foti	Buffalo Center	opndcf@buffalo.edu	(716) 434-7356	(716) 645-3900	
Simonpeter Gomez	Buffalo State	gomezs@buffalostate.edu		(716) 878-6227	
Timothy J. Hoff	Albany	thoff@uamail.albany.edu	(518) 427-7503	(518) 402-0294	
John Thomas Hogle	Morrisville	write_thogle@hotmail.com	(315) 469-0211	(315) 684-6195	
Frederick Houston	Brooklyn HSC	frederick.houston@downstate.edu	(718) 771-4785	(718) 270-7408	
Raul A. Huerta	Morrisville	huertara@morrisville.edu	(315) 825-0221	(315) 684-6270	
Winfield A. Ihlow	Oswego	ihlow@oswego.edu	(315) 342-5939	(315) 312-2558	
Maureen P. Kanaley	Buffalo Center	kanaley@buffalo.edu	(716) 827-0134	(716) 645-2993	
Dawn E Klunder	Upstate Medical	klunderd@upstate.edu	(315) 633-0215	(315) 464-7433	
Thomas Kriger	UUP Staff	tkriger@uupmail.org		(518) 640-6600	
Bruce T. Kube	Stony Brook HSC	bkube@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	(631) 650-1077	(631) 444-2377	
Thomas E. Matthews	Geneseo	matthews@geneseo.edu	(585) 243-1141	(585) 245-5857	
Darleyne E Mayers	Farmingdale	darleyne.mayers@farmingdale	(516) 379-9463	(516) 489-8705	

Charles F. McAteer	Stony Brook	charles.mcateer@stonybrook.edu		(631) 632-6445	
Lynda McMaster-Schuyler	Cobleskill	mcmastl@cobldeskill.edu	(518) 234-1116	(518) 255-5446	
F. Glenn McNitt	New Paltz	mcnittfg@newpaltz.edu	(845) 255-1398	(845) 257-3553	Chair/Exec. Board Liaison
Darlene Mercardo	Buffalo Center	mercado@buffalo.edu	(716) 875-5209	(716) 846-6727	
Thomas E. Morrissey	Fredonia	thomas.morrissey@fredonia.edu	(716) 679-1776	(716) 673-3879	
John J. Picarelli	Optometry	jpicarelli@sunyopt.edu	(201) 444-2409	(212) 780-5164	
Robert L. Pompi	Binghamton	rpompi@binghantom.edu	(607) 797-3449	(607) 777-4262	
Catherine W. Richmond	Alfred	richmocw@alfredstate.edu	(607) 593-3703	(607) 587-3682	
David G. Ritchie	Cortland	ritchie@cortland.edu	(607) 273-4453	(607) 753-2818	
Michael E. Rozalski Jr.	Geneseo	rozalski@geneseo.edu	(585) 245-8807	(585) 245-5253	
William E. Scheuerman	Oswego	bscheuer@uupmail.org	(315) 343-5372	(518) 640-6600	Officer Liaison
Bryan D. Sidorowicz	Buffalo Center	bds@buffalo.edu	(716) 837-8550	(716) 645-6927	
Norman N. Smellie	Brooklyn HSC	norman.smellie@downstate.edu	(718) 282-0718	(718) 270-7303	
Kathleen Southerton	Stony Brook HSC	ksoutherton@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	(631) 244-2540	(631) 444-3783	Vice Chair
Camille A. Spyra	Buffalo State	spyraca@buffalostate.edu	(716) 838-0519	(716) 878-4618	
Ivan D. Steen	Albany	oralhis@csc.albany.edu	(518) 456-2781	(518) 442-4811	
Richard A. Stempniak	Buffalo State	stempnra@buffalostate.edu	(716) 685-4359	(716) 878-6006	
Brian R. Tappen	Upstate Medical Univ	tappenb@upstate.edu	(315) 422-3643	(315) 464-9161	
John W. Taylor	Delhi	jtaylor@delhitel.net	(607) 746-2938	(607) 746-4079	
Jack E. Termine	Brooklyn HSC	jack.termine@downstate.edu	(718) 223-9938	(718) 645-6754	
Thomas J. Tucker	Buffalo Center	ttucker@uupmail.org	(716) 832-4991	(716) 645-6754	Ex Officio (PAC Chair)
Jeffrey M. Weiss	Stony Brook HSC	jmweiss@notes.cs.sunysb.edu		(631) 444-3949	

NYSUT Political Action Committee

Senate District		First Name	Last name	E-mail	Local	Home Phone	Work Phone
1		Jeannine	Smith	mctany@aol.com	Middle Country Teachers Association	(631) 965-2540	(631) 585-4308
2		Thomas	Laraia		Elwood TA	(631) 587-4239	
3		Kathy	Southerton	ksoutherton@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	UUP Stony Brook HSC	(631) 244-2540	(631) 444-3783
4		Nancy	Close	nancykclose@aol.com	East Islip TA	(631) 563-2783	(631) 277-1990
5		John	Mansfield	johnmansfield@optonline.net	Lindenhurst TA	(631) 956-1464	(631) 226-0701
5		Mathilda	Wolfson	swolfson12@earthlink.net	Syosset TA	(631) 692-5190	(516) 364-5823
6		Sheila	Goldberg	jsindel@optonline.net	RC 17 & Plainedge FTRC	(631) 242-2284	
6	Intern	Jane	Sindel	jsindel@optonline.com	Plainedge FT	(516) 621-8905	(516) 992-7500
7		Elaine	Berman	erberm@aol.com	Port Washington TA	(516) 883-8221	(516) 883-6229
7	Intern	Paul	Wolski	paulus65@aol.com	Herricks TA	(516) 746-0147	(516) 248-3111
8		Gary E.	Gomels	ggomels@aol.com	Bell-Merr UST Inc	(631) 543-5739	(516) 623-8900 x 4410
9		Toni	Vitelli			(516) 599-3599	
10-16		Barbara	Silberman	pacbas@aol.com	Queens UFT	(718) 479-6075	(718) 830-5667
17-23 & 27		Armando	Blasse	agblasse@aol.com	Brooklyn UFT	(718) 789-6827	(718) 852-4900
17-23 & 27		John	Settle	jsettle97@aol.com	Brooklyn UFT	(718) 339-3649	(718) 852-4900
24		John	Robilotti	jrobilotti@si.rr.com	United Federation of Teachers	(718) 761-5074	(718) 605-1400
25-26 & 28-31		Cassandra	Carlo	uftcassc@aol.com	United Federation of Teachers	(718) 655-8319	(212) 598-6836
32-33 & 34 & 36		Paul	Egan	district11rep@yahoo.com	UFT	(845) 429-5730	(718) 862-6012
35	Intern	Michael	Ciriello	yftonline@hotmail.com	Yonkers FT	(845) 238-2166	(914) 376-8400
35		Carene	Domato	scarletpgcsd@hotmail.com	Mount Vernon FT	(845) 528-1582	(914) 665-5105
35		Florence	McCue	lawftm@aol.com	Yonkers FT	(914) 592-8422	
37		Maureen	Warren	mbrown-warren@bedford.k12.ny.us	Bedford TA	(914) 248-5485	(914) 234-4178
38		Donna	Ramundo	dlmr55@aol.com	Nyack TA	(845) 735-3271	(845) 353-7240
39		Paul	Ellis-Graham	pellisgr@mw.k12.ny.us	Monroe Woodbury TA	(845) 928-8945	(845) 460-7000 x6039
40		Rayna	Shapiro	raynas@optonline.net	Edgemont TA	(914) 395-3742	(914) 262-5419
41		Cynthia	Glozier		Poughkeepsie PS TA	(845) 876-5393	
42		Patrick	McCarthy	minooka@catskill.net	Sullivan County BOCES	(845) 583-7874	(845) 796-4332 ext. 118
43		Frances	Hyde	lighthousetroy@netscape.net	Troy TA	(518) 271-7030	(518) 271-5440

44		Laura	Bellinger	ljbellin@yahoo.com	Fonda Fultonville TA	(518) 993-4991	(518) 853-3182
45	Intern	Michele	Bushey	mbushey@saranac.org	Saranac TA	(518) 647-8451	(518) 843-2800
45		Cheryl A.	Thomas	tmtjr@aol.com	Ausable Valley TA		
46		James	Sheehan	jcsoakwood@verizon.net	South Colonie TA	(518) 459-5086	
47		Diana	Giffune	dgiffune@msn.com	Oneida County BOCES TA	(315) 737-8595	(315) 557-2618 x5614
47		James	Durkish	triangle@coolyork.com	Harrisville TA	(315) 773-5125	(315) 482-9971
48		Patricia	Kush	pkush@twcny.rr.com or pkush@fulton.cnyric.org	Fulton TA	(315) 342-1920	
48		Michael	Montigelli	mmontigelli@alexandriacentral.org	Alexandria Central FA	(315) 592-2757	(315) 593-5400
49		David	Kirby	dlkirby@twcny.rr.com	Syracuse TA	(315) 773-5125	(315) 482-9971
50		Philip M.	Cleary	pcleary@nscsd.org	North Syracuse EA	(315) 446-3824	(315) 435-6515
51		Joseph	Bernocco	bernoccoj@crcs.k12.ny.us	Cobleskill-Richmondville TA	(315) 452-4625	(315) 218-2200
51	Intern	Joseph	Morotti	joem@lfcsd.org	Little Falls TA	(518) 294-7243	
52		Kenneth	Smith	ksmith@btboces.org	Br-Del-Ti-Boces TA	(315) 823-3801	(315) 823-1167
53		James	Jacobus	jjacobus2@stny.rr.com	Horseheads TA	(607) 775-0318	
54		Margaret	Bartolotti	mbbart@aol.com	Webster TA	(607) 739-1213	(607) 739-6366
54	Intern	Jeff	Beall	jbeall@rochester.rr.com	Phelps-Clifton Springs FA	(585) 671-7529	
55		Daniel	Sanfratello	mistersan@aol.com	Pittsford Dist TA	(315) 331-1667	(315) 548-6600
56		Sharon	Peck Silvio	ssilvio@aol.com	Rochester TA	(585) 223-3813	(585) 267-3117
57		Frank	Gawronski	fgaw@netsync.net	Tri-County BOCES	(585) 244-1912	(585) 325-2255
57		James	McGrath	JEM4820@yahoo.com	Franklinville TA	(716) 366-4973	
58		Bob	McDonald	bmcd7@hotmail.com	Lake Shore Central TA	(716) 676-5818	(716) 676-8060
59		Rick	Stotz	rstotz@clevehill.org	Cleveland Hill EA	(716) 627-3873	
60		Edward	Ceccato	ececcato@nfschools.net	Niagara Falls TA	(716) 681-9112	(716) 836-7200
61		Cheryl	Hughes	chughes11@adelphia.net	Kenmore TA	(716) 297-5608	(716) 278-5800
62		Gail	Niparts	gniparts@lockport.wnyric.org	Lockport EA	(716) 741-8613	(716) 874-8404
At Large		Robert	Astrowsky	badodger@aol.com	United Federation of Teachers	(716) 688-9339	(716) 478-4450 ext 5225
At Large		Leroy	Barr	lbarruft@aol.com	UFT	(212) 628-1967	(212) 598-9207
At Large		Donald	Benker	donkta@aol.com	Kenmore TA	(718) 940-4459	(212) 598-6833
At Large		Patricia	Bentley	patricia.bentley@plattsburgh.edu	UUP - SUNY Plattsbugh	(716) 689-3303	(716) 837-3710
At Large		Edison	Bond		UUP	(518) 561-5327	(518) 564-5202
At Large		Ron	Bongi	ronkta@aol.com	Kenmore TA	(718) 951-3330	
At Large		Barbara	Bowen	bbowen@pscmail.org	Professional Staff Congress	(716) 832-6784	(716) 837-3710
At Large		John	Burns	burns369@yahoo.com	Williamsville TA	(212) 595-6884	(212) 354-1252
At Large		Deborah	Collier	cc62485@yahoo.com	Yonkers FT	(716) 877-1792	(716) 626-8534

At Large		Michael	Corn	mcorn@nysutmail.org	New Hartford TA	(914) 682-1918	(914) 376-8210
At Large		Glenda	Cowen		North Country Retiree Council	(315) 896-9808	(315) 768-0131
At Large		Laurie	Faso	lfaso@fcsd.wnyric.org	Fredonia SRP	(315) 265-3676	(315) 265-3676
At Large		Fred	Floss	ffloss@uupmail.org		(716) 679-7403	(716) 679-1581 x 2710
At Large		Candelario	Franco	cfranco22@aol.com	UUP - Old Westbury	(716) 876-2387	(518) 640-6600
At Large		Harolyn	Fritz	queensbr@aol.com	UFT/Queens	(631) 549-5645	(516) 876-3345
At Large		Jerry	Goldman	bororep@aol.com	United Federation of Teachers	(516) 887-2265	(718) 830-5656
At Large		Kathy	Hynes	khynes@commack.k12.ny.us	Commack TA	(718) 317-7352	(212) 598-6811
At Large		David	Israel	davidkisrael@excite.com	East Williston TA	(631) 363-8910	(631) 912-2099 x4417
At Large		Jane	Kauffman	janekauffman@hotmail.com	Retiree Council 2	(516) 741-5419	(516) 333-3758
At Large		Steve	London	slondon@pscmail.org	Professional Staff Congress	(716) 689-8457	(716) 634-7132
At Large		Ellen	Mancuso	emancuso@monroeccc.edu	Faculty Assn #2842	(718) 636-5310	(212) 354-1252
At Large		Eileen	Moran	eyedon@earthlink.net	PSC Retirees Chapter		(585) 292-2313
At Large		Marvin	Reiskin	mreiskin@uft.org	UFT	(718) 631-3201	
At Large		Morty	Rosenfeld	mrosenfeld@pobct.org	Planview-Old Beth Congress of Teachers	(718) 491-1121	(212) 598-7744
At Large		June	Smith	jfsmith311@aol.com	Smithtown TA	(516) 420-8865	(516) 349-1310
At Large		Nina	Tribble	enigma561@aol.com	United Federation of Teachers	(631) 563-1472	
At Large		Thomas	Tucker	ttucker@acsu.buffalo.edu	UUP	(516) 594-0924	(718) 830-4970
At Large		Adam	Urbanski	urbanski@servtech.com	Rochester TA	(716) 832-4975	(716) 645-6754 x 1412
At Large		Randi	Weingarten	rweingarte@aol.com	UFT	(585) 473-5191	(585) 546-2681
At Large		Martin	Ziac	mfziac@nycap.rr.com	Scotia Glenville TA	(718) 499-3686	(212) 598-9215

NYSUT Regional Offices

Capital District Regional Office
800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110-2455
Phone: (518) 783-7977 (*30)
Fax: (518)783-4934
Regional Staff Director: Linda Stanczik

Mid-Hudson Regional Office
201 Stockade Drive, Kingston, NY 12401-3867
Phone: (845) 339-4450 (*32)
Fax: (845) 339-1840
Regional Staff Director: Ann Harrison

Nassau Regional Office
Jericho Atrium, 500 North Broadway, Suite 123, Jericho, NY 11753
Phone: (516) 938-4871 (*33)
Fax: (516) 938-4022
Regional Staff Director: John Coverdale

New York City Regional Office
52 Broadway, 9th Floor, New York, NY 10004
Phone: (212) 533-6567 (*34)
Fax: (212) 673-6540
Regional Staff Director: Marc Laffer

North Country Regional Office
79 Hammond Lane, Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Phone: (518) 561-0150 (*35)
Fax: (518) 561-9660
Regional Staff Director: John Harvey

North Country Regional Office
12 Elm Street, Potsdam, NY 13676
Phone: (315) 265-2160 (*36)
Fax: (315) 265-7107
Regional Staff Director: John Harvey

North Country Regional Office
513 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601
Phone: (315) 788-0270 (*37)
Fax: (315) 782-8942
Regional Staff Director: John Harvey

Rochester Regional Office
Union Place, 30 North Union Street, Suite 302, Rochester, NY 14607
Phone: (585) 454-5550 (*38)
Fax: (585) 454-7711
Regional Staff Director: Tom Gillett

Southern Tier Regional Office
305 Vestal Parkway, West, Vestal, NY 13850
Phone: (607) 786-5742 (*39)
Fax: (607) 786-5749
Regional Staff Director: Catherine Klein

Southern Tier Regional Office
100 West Church Street, Suite 200, Elmira, NY 14901
Phone: (607) 732-1928 (*40)
Fax: (607) 734-3371
Regional Staff Director: Catherine Klein

Southwestern NY Regional Office
1 Lockwood Terrace, 4th & Cherry Streets, Jamestown, NY 14701
Phone: (716) 664-7425 (*41)
Fax: (716) 487-1727
Regional Staff Director: David Eggert

Southwestern NY Regional Office
405 W. Third St.
Jamestown, NY 14701
(716) 664-7425
Regional Staff Director: David Eggert

Suffolk Regional Office
150 Vanderbilt Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, NY 11788
Phone: (631) 273-8822 (*42)
Fax: (631) 273-6186
Regional Staff Director: Daniel Bahr

Syracuse Regional Office
4983 Brittonfield Parkway, East Syracuse, NY 13057
Phone: (315) 431-4040 (*43)
Fax: (315) 431-4411
Regional Staff Director: Bernie Perry

Tarrytown (formerly Elmsford) Regional Office
520 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591
(914) 592-4411
Regional Staff Director: Marc Laffer

Utica Regional Office
7 Ellinwood Court, New Hartford, NY 13413
Phone: (315) 768-0131 (*44)
Fax: (315) 768-1360
Regional Staff Director: Fred Monaco

Western NY Regional Office
Centerpointe Corporate Park, 270 Essjay Road, Williamsville, NY 14221
Phone: (716) 634-7132 (*45)
Fax: (716) 634-4731
Regional Staff Director: Michael Preskop

New York State Assembly Roster

District	Name		Party	Room	Phone #	SUNY in District	District Address		City	Zip	District Phone	Committee
1	Marc	Alessi	D	404 LOB	455-5294		400 West Main St	Suite 201	Riverhead	11901	(631)727-1363	
2	Fred	Thiele Jr.	R-I-WF	550 LOB	455-5997	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	2302 Main St	Box 3062	Bridgehampton	11932	(631)537-2583	
3	Patricia	Eddington	D-I-WFP	639 LOB	455-4901	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	38 Oak St	Suite 5	Patchogue	11772	(631)207-0073	Higher Ed
4	Steven	Englebright	D	824 LOB	455-4804	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	149 Main St		East Setauket	11733	(631)751-3094	Higher Ed
5	Ginny	Fields	D	432 LOB	455-5937	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	2 South Main St	Suite 2	Sayville	11782	(631)589-8685	
6	Philip	Ramos	D	650 LOB	455-5185		1010 Suffolk Ave.		Brentwood	11717	(631)435-3214	
7	Michael	Fitzpatrick	R	544 LOB	455-5021	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	50 Route 111	Suite 202	Smithtown	11787	(631)724-2929	Higher Ed
8	Phillip	Boyle	R	718 LOB	455-5258		187 Sunrise Hwy	Suite C	West Islip	11795	(631)422-1321	
9	Andrew	Raia	R-C	629 LOB	455-5952		75 Woodbine Ave		Northport	11768	(631)261-4151	
10	James	Conte	R-C	635 LOB	455-5732	Farmingdale	1783 New York Ave		Huntington Station	11746	(631)271-8025	Higher Ed
11	Robert	Sweeney	D	837 LOB	455-5787		270-B North Wellwood Ave		Lindenhurst	11757-3708	(631)957-2087	
12	Joseph	Saladino	R-C-I	534 LOB	455-5305	Farmingdale	200 Boundary Ave		Massapequa	11758	(516)844-0635	
13	Charles	Lavine	D	325 LOB	455-5456	Old Westbury, Farmingdale	70 Glen St	Ste 100	Glen Cove	11542	(516)676-0050	
14	Robert	Barra	R-C	723 LOB	455-4656		534 Merrick Rd		Lynbrook	11563	(516)561-8216	
15	Rob	Walker		326 LOB	455-4684	Old Westbury	150 Post Ave		Westbury	11590	(516)338-2693	
16	Michelle	Schimel	D	324 LOB	455-5192	Old Westbury	11 Middle Neck Rd.	Ste 200	Great Neck	11021	(516)482-6966	
17	Tom	McKevitt	R-C	534 LOB	455-5341	Old Westbury	224 Seventh St.	Ste 200	Garden City	11530	(516)739-5119	
18	Earlene	Hooper	D-L	744 LOB	455-5861		80 N. Franklin St		Hempstead	11550	(516)489-6610	
19	David	McDonough	R	533 LOB	455-4633		3000 Hempstead Tpk	Suite 110	Levittown	11756	(516)731-8830	
20	Harvey	Weisenberg	D	731 LOB	455-3028		20 West Park Ave.		Long Beach	11561	(516)431-0500	
21	Thomas	Alfano	R-I-C-W	721 LOB	455-4627		Citibank Building	925 Hempstead Tpk	Franklin Square	11010	(516)437-5577	
22	Ellen	Young	D	920 LOB	455-5411		39-07 Prince St	Suite 3C	Flushing	11354	(718)939-0195	
23	Audrey	Pheffer	D	941 LOB	455-4292		108-14 Crossbay Blvd		Ozone Park	11417	(718)641-8755	Higher Ed
24	Mark	Weprin	D	626 LOB	455-5806		56-21 Marathon Pkwy		Little Neck	11362	(718)428-7900	
25	Rory	Lancman	D	704 LOB	455-5172		77-40 170th St		Fresh Meadows	11366	(718)762-6575	
26	Ann-Margaret	Carrozza	D	656 LOB	455-5425		213-33 39th Ave		Bayside	11361	(718)357-3588	

27	Nettie	Mayersohn	D-L	746 LOB	455-4404		159-06 71st Ave		Flushing	11365	(718)969-1508	
28	Andrew	Hevesi	D	833 LOB	455-4926		98-08 Metropolitan Ave		Forest Hills	11375	(718)263-5595	
29	William	Scarborough	D	622 LOB	455-4451		114-52A Merrick Blvd.		St. Albans	11434	(718)657-5312	
30	Margaret	Markey	D	654 LOB	455-4755		55-19 69th St		Maspeth	11378	(718)651-3185	
31	Michele	Titus	D	741 LOB	455-5668		19-31 Mott Ave	Room 301	Far Rockaway	11691	(718)327-1845	
32	Vivian	Cook	D-L	331 LOB	455-4203		142-15 Rockaway Blvd		Jamaica	11436	(718)322-3975	
33	Barbara	Clark	D-L	702 LOB	455-4711		97-01 Springfield Blvd		Queens Village	11429	(718)479-2333	
34	Ivan	Lafayette	D-L	646 LOB	455-4545		33-46 92nd St	Suite 1W	Jackson Heights	11372	(718)457-0384	
35	Jeffrion	Aubry	D-L	526 LOB	455-4561		98-09 Northern Blvd.		Corona	11368	(718)457-3615	
36	Michael	Gianaris	D	742 LOB	455-5014		21-77 31 St	Suite 107	Astoria	11105	(718)545-3889	
37	Catherine	Nolan	D	424 LOB	455-4851		45-25 47th St		Woodside	11377	(718)784-3194	
38	Anthony	Seminerio	D	818 LOB	455-4621		107-05 Jamaica Ave		Richmond Hill	11418	(718)847-0770	
39	Jose	Peralta	D	528 LOB	455-4567		82-11 37th Ave		Jackson Heights	11372	(718)458-5367	
40	Diane	Gordon	D	441 LOB	455-5912		669 Vermont St		Brooklyn	11207	(718)257-5824	
41	Helene	Weinstein	D	831 LOB	455-5462	Brooklyn HSC	3520 Nostrand Ave		Brooklyn	11229	(718)648-4700	
42	Rhoda	Jacobs	D	736 LOB	455-5385	Brooklyn HSC	2294 Nostrand Ave		Brooklyn	11210	(718)434-0446	Higher Ed
43	Karim	Camara	D	739 LOB	455-5262	Brooklyn HSC	1218 Union St		Brooklyn	11225	(718)756-1776	
44	James	Brennan	D	641 LOB	455-5377		416 Seventh Ave		Brooklyn	11215	(718)788-7221	
45	Steven	Cymbrowitz	D	538 LOB	455-5214		1800 Sheepshead Bay Rd		Brooklyn	11235	(718)743-4078	
46	Alec	Brook-Krasney	D	435 LOB	455-4811		2823 West 12 St	Suite 1F	Brooklyn	11224	(718)266-0267	
47	William	Colton	D	733 LOB	455-5828		211 Kings Hwy		Brooklyn	11223	(718)236-1598	
48	Dovg	Hikind	D	551 LOB	455-5721		1310 48th St.		Brooklyn	11219	(718)853-9616	
49	Peter	Abbate Jr.	D	839 LOB	455-3053		8500 18th Ave		Brooklyn	11214	(718)236-1764	
50	Joseph	Lentol	D	632 LOB	455-4477		619 Lorimer St		Brooklyn	11211	(718)383-7474	
51	Felix	Ortiz	D	542 LOB	455-3821		404 55th St		Brooklyn	11220	(718)492-6334	
52	Joan	Millman	D-WF	510 CAP	455-5426		341 Smith St		Brooklyn	11231	(718)246-4889	
53	Vito	Lopez	D-WF	943 LOB	455-5537		434 South 5th Street		Brooklyn	11211	(718)963-7029	
54	Darryl	Towns	D-WF	841 LOB	455-5821		840 Jamaica Ave		Brooklyn	11208	(718)235-5627	
55	William	Boyland Jr.	D-I	324 LOB	455-4466	Brooklyn HSC	467 Thomas S. Boyland St.		Brooklyn	11212	(718)498-8681	
56	Annette	Robinson	D-WF	729 LOB	455-5474		1360 Fulton St	Room 417	Brooklyn	11216	(718)399-7630	
57	Hakim	Jeffries	D	523 LOB	455-5325		55 Hanson Place	3rd Floor	Brooklyn	11217	(718)596-0100	Higher Ed

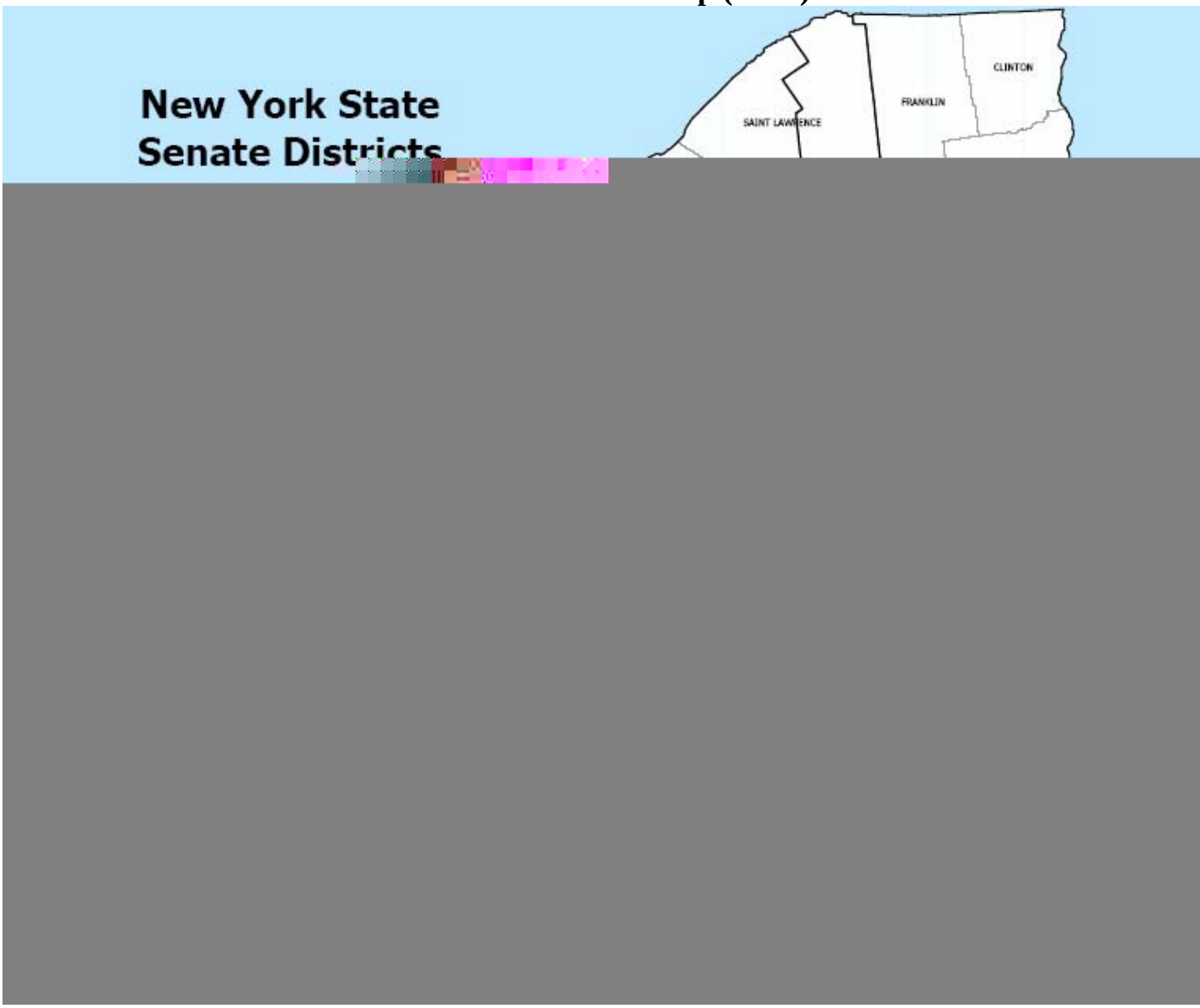
120	William	Magnarelli	D	519 LOB	455-4826	Syracuse HSC, ESF	333 E Washington St	Room 840	Syracuse	13202	(315)428-9651	
121	Albert	Stripe	D	431 LOB	455-4505		201 So. Main St.	Room 200	North Syracuse	13212	(315)452-1115	
122	Dierdre	Scozzafava	R-I-C	329 LOB	455-5797	Potsdam, Canton	93 East Main St		Gouverneur	13642	(315)287-2384	
123	Gary	Finch	R-C	718 LOB	455-5878	Cortland	69 South St		Auburn	13021	(315)255-3045	
124	William	Barclay	R-I-C	938 LOB	455-5841	Oswego	200 North Second St		Fulton	13069	(315)598-5185	
125	Barbara	Lifton	D	821 LOB	455-5444	Cortland	106 East Court St		Ithaca	14850	(607)277-8030	Higher Ed
126	Donna	Lupardo	D	834 LOB	455-5431	Binghamton	Binghamton State Office Bldg	17th Fl	Binghamton	13901-4416	(607)723-9047	Higher Ed
127	Peter	Lopez	R	429 LOB	455-5363	Oneonta, Cobleskill, Delhi	45 Five Mile Woods Rd.	Ste. 2	Catskill	12414	(518)943-1371	
128	Robert	Oaks	R-C	437 LOB	455-5655	Oswego	10 Leach Rd		Lyons	14489	(315)946-5166	
129	Brian	Kolb	R-C-I	720 LOB	455-5772		607 West Washington St	Ste 2	Geneva	14456	(315)781-2030	Higher Ed
130	Joseph	Errigo	R-C	427 LOB	455-5662	Geneseo	3045 E. Henrietta Rd		Henrietta	14467	(585)334-5210	
131	Susan	John	D	522 LOB	455-4527		840 University Ave		Rochester	14607	(585)244-5255	
132	Joseph	Morelle	D	716 LOB	455-5373		1945 East Ridge Rd		Rochester	14622	(585)467-0410	Higher Ed
133	David	Gantt	D	830 LOB	455-5606		74 University Ave		Rochester	14605	(585)454-3670	
134	Bill	Reilich	R-C-I	940 LOB	455-4664	Brockport	2300 W. Ridge Rd.		Rochester	14626	(585)225-4190	
135	David	Koon	D	643 LOB	455-5784		268 Fairport Village Lndg		Fairport	14450	(585)223-9130	
136	James	Bacalles	R-C	439 LOB	455-5791		105 E. Steuben St		Bath	14810	(607)776-9691	
137	Tom	O'Mara	R-C	433 LOB	455-4538		333 E. Water St	3rd Fl, Ste 301	Elmira	14901	(607)732-3500	
138	Francine	DelMonte	D	553 LOB	455-5284		1700 Pine Ave		Niagara Falls	14301	(716)282-6062	
139	Steve	Hawley	R	433 LOB	455-5811	Brockport	121 N. Main St	Suite 100	Albion	14411	(585)589-5780	
140	Robin	Schimminger	D-I-C	847 LOB	455-4767		3514 Delaware Ave		Kenmore	14217	(716)873-2540	
141	Crystal	Peoples		619 LOB	455-5005	Buffalo, Buffalo HSC, Buffalo College	792 E. Delavan Ave		Buffalo	14215	(716)897-9714	
142	Mike	Cole	R	545 LOB	455-4601		5763 Seneca St		Elma	14059	(716)675-7170	
143	Dennis	Gabryszak	D	926 LOB	455-5921		2960 Walden Ave.	109	Cheektowagas	14225	(716)852-2791	
144	Sam	Hoyt	D-L	454 LOB	455-4886	Buffalo, Buffalo HSC, Buffalo College	Donovan State Office Bldg.	125 Main St	Buffalo	14203	(716)852-2795	
145	Mark	Schroeder	D	323 LOB	455-4691		2019 Seneca St		Buffalo	14210	(716)826-0152	
146	Jack	Quinn	R	543 LOB	455-4462		3812 South Park Ave		Blasdell	14219	(716)826-1878	
147	Daniel	Burling	R-C	545 LOB	455-5314	Geneseo, Alfred	2371 North Main St		Warsaw	14569	(585)786-0180	
148	James	Hayes	R	458 LOB	455-4618		5555 Main St		Amherst	14221	(716)634-1895	Higher Ed
149	Joseph	Giglio	R	550 LOB	455-5241		700 W State St		Olean	14760	(716)373-7103	
150	William	Parment	D	547 LOB	455-4511	Fredonia	Hotel Jamestown	Room 809	Jamestown	14701	(716)664-7773	

New York State Senate Roster

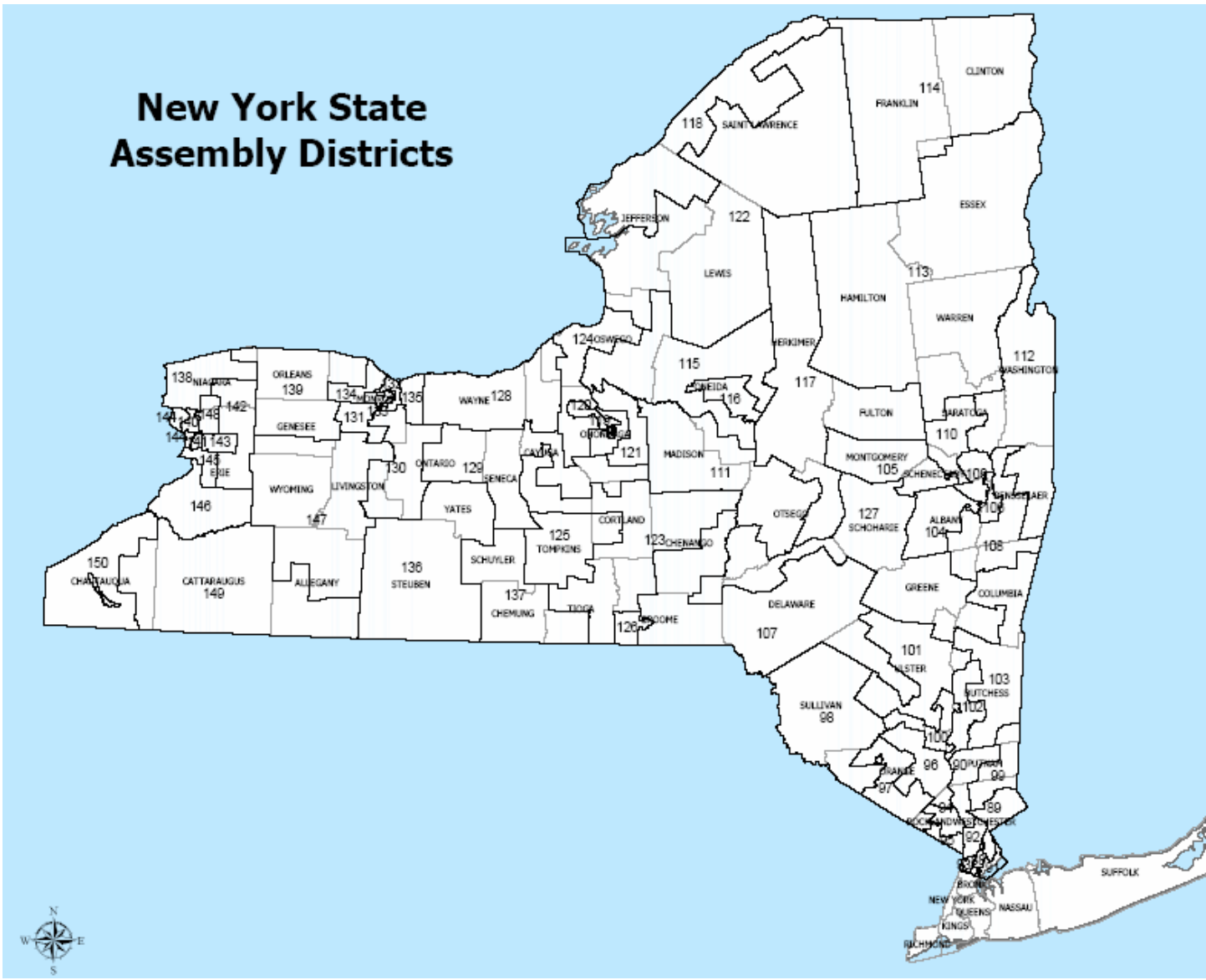
Dis	Name		Party	Room	Phone #	SUNY in district	District Address		City	Zip	Phone #	Committee
1	Kenneth	LaValle	R-I-C	806 LOB	455-3121	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	325 Middle Country Rd	Suite 4	Selden	11784	(631)696-6900	Higher Ed
2	John	Flanagan	R-I-C-W	817 LOB	455-2071	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	260 Middle Country Rd	Suite 203	Smithtown	11787	(631)361-2154	Higher Ed
3	Caesar	Trunzo	R-I-C-W	711 LOB	455-2111	Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC	NYS Office Building	Veterans' Memorial Hwy	Hauppauge	11788	(631)360-3236	
4	Owen	Johnson	R-I-C-W	913 LOB	455-3411		23-24 Argyle Square		Babylon	11702	(631)669-9200	
5	Carl	Marcellino	R-I-C-W	812 LOB	455-2390	Old Westbury	250 Townsend Sq		Oyster Bay	11771	(516)922-1811	
6	Kemp	Hannon	R-I-C	501 CAP	455-2200	Farmingdale	224 Seventh Street		Garden City	11530	(516)739-1700	
7	Craig	Johnson	D-W	604 LOB	455-2622	Old Westbury	151 Herricks Road	Suite 202	Garden City Prk	11040	(516)873-0736	
8	Charles	Fuschillo, Jr.	R-I-C	947 LOB	455-3341	Farmingdale	30 S. Ocean Ave.		Freeport	11520	(516)546-4100	
9	Dean	Skelos	R-I	503 CAP	455-3171		55 Front Street		Rockville Ctr	11570	(516)766-8383	
10	Shirley	Huntley	D	508 LOB	455-3531		116-43 Sutphin Blvd		Jamaica	11434	(718)322-2537	
11	Frank	Padavan	R-I-C	505 CAP	455-3381		89-39 Gettysburg St		Bellerose	11426	(718)343-0255	
12	George	Onorato	D	315 LOB	455-3486		28-11 Astoria Blvd		Long Island City	11102	(718)545-9706	
13	John	Sabini	D-W	513 LOB	455-2529		35-07 88th Street		Jackson Heights	11372	(718)639-8469	
14	Malcolm	Smith	D-R-C-W	508 LOB	455-2195		205-19 Linden Blvd		Saint Albans	11412	(718)528-4290	
15	Serphin	Maltese	R-I-C	413 CAP	455-3281		71-04 Myrtle Ave		Glendale	11385	(718)497-1800	Higher Ed
16	Toby Ann	Stavisky	D-W	504 LOB	455-3461		144-36 Willets Point		Flushing	11357	(718)445-0004	Higher Ed
17	MartinMalave	Dilan	D-W	606 LOB	455-2177		786 Knickerbocker Ave		Brooklyn	11207	(718)573-1726	
18	Velmanette	Montgomery	D-W	306 LOB	455-3451		30 Third Avenue	Room 615	Brooklyn	11217	(718)643-6140	
19	John	Sampson	D-W	506 LOB	455-2788	Brooklyn HSC	9114 Flatlands Ave		Brooklyn	11236	(718)649-7653	
20	Eric	Adams	D	413 LOB	455-2431	Brooklyn HSC	572 Flatbush Ave		Brooklyn	11225	(718)284-4700	
21	Kevin	Parker	D-W	517 LOB	455-2580	Brooklyn HSC	4515 Avenue D		Brooklyn	11203	(718)629-6401	Higher Ed
22	Martin	Golden	R-I-C	946 LOB	455-2730		7403 5th Ave		Brooklyn	11209	(718)238-6044	
23	Diane	Savino	D-W	406 LOB	455-2437		36 Richmond Terr	1st Fl	Staten Island	10301	(718)727-9406	
24	Andrew	Lanza	R-I	947 LOB	455-3215		358 St. Mark's Place		Staten Island	10301	(718)447-1723	
25	Martin	Connor	D-W	408 LOB	455-2625		250 Broadway	Suite 2011	New York	10007	(212)298-5565	
26	Liz	Krueger	D-W	302 LOB	455-2297	Optometry	211 East 43rd St	Suite 1300	New York	10017	(212)490-9535	Higher Ed
27	Carl	Kruger	D-R	608 LOB	455-2460		2201 Avenue U		Brooklyn	11229	(718)743-8610	
28	Jose	Serrano	D-W	706 LOB	455-2795		87 East 116th St		New York	10029	(212)860-0893	Higher Ed
29	Thomas	Duane	D-W	711B LOB	455-2451	Optometry	494 Eighth Ave	Suite 503	New York	10001	(212)268-1049	

30	Bill	Perkins	D-W	617 LOB	455-2441		163 W 125th St	Suite 912	New York	10027	(212)222-7315	
31	Eric	Schneiderman	D-W	313 LOB	455-2041		80 Bennett Ave	Ground Floor	New York	10033	(212)928-5578	
32	Ruben	Diaz, Sr.	D	304 LOB	455-2511		1750 Westchester Ave		Bronx	10472	(718)892-7513	Higher Ed
33	Efrain	Gonzalez Jr.	D	420 CAP	455-3395		1780 Grand Concourse	1st Floor	Bronx	10457	(718)299-7905	
34	Jeff	Klein	D	415 LOB	455-3595	Maritime	3713 E. Tremont Ave	Lower Level	Bronx	10465	(718)822-2321	
35	Andrea	Stewart-Cousins	D	415 LOB	455-2585	Empire State	35 East Grassy Sprain Rd.	Suite 205	Yonkers	10710	(914)771-4190	
36	Ruth	Hassell-Thompson	D-I-W	613 LOB	455-2061		767 East Gunhill Rd		Bronx	10467	(718)547-8854	
37	Suzi	Oppenheimer	D-W	515 LOB	455-2031	Purchase	222 Grace Church St	3rd Floor	Port Chester	10573	(914)934-5250	Higher Ed
38	Thomas	Morahan	R-I-C-W	848 LOB	455-3261		158 Airport ExecPark		Nanuet	10954	(845)425-1818	
39	Bill	Larkin	R-C	612 LOB	455-2770		1093 Little Britain Rd		New Windsor	12553	(845)567-1270	
40	Vincent	Leibell	R-I-C	609 LOB	455-3111		1441 Route 22	Suite 205	Brewster	10509	(845)279-3773	
41	Stephen	Saland	R-C	708 LOB	455-2411		3 Neptune Rd	Suite A19B	Poughkeepsie	12601	(845)463-0840	
42	John	Bonacic	R-I-C	815 LOB	455-3181	New Paltz, Oneonta, Delhi	279 Main St	Suite 202	New Paltz	12561	(845)255-9656	
43	Joseph	Bruno	R-I	909 LOB	455-3191	Albany, NYSTI	368 Broadway		Saratoga Sprngs	12866	(518)583-1001	
44	Hugh	Farley	R-I-C	412 LOB	455-2181		2430 Riverfront Center		Amsterdam	12010	(518)843-2188	
45	Elizabeth O'C.	Little	R-I-C	903 LOB	455-2811	Plattsburgh	21 Bay St		Glens Falls	12801	(518)743-0968	
46	Neil	Breslin	D-I-W	414 CAP	455-2225	Albany	414 CAP		Albany	12247	(518)455-2225	
47	Joseph	Griffo	R-C	944 LOB	455-3334	Potsdam, Utica-Rome	207 Genessee St		Utica	13501	(315) 793-9072	
48	Jim	Wright	R-I-C	811 LOB	455-2346	Oswego, Canton	Dulles Office Bldg, 4th Fl	Washington St	Watertown	13601	(315)785-2430	
49	David	Valesky	D-W	707 LOB	455-2838	Syracuse HSC, Morrisville, ESF	805 State Off Building	333 E Washington St	Syracuse	13202	(315)478-8745	Higher Ed
50	John	DeFrancisco	R-I-C-W	307 LOB	455-3511	Syracuse HSC, ESF	800 State Off Building	333 E Washington St	Syracuse	13202	(315)428-7632	
51	James	Seward	R-I-C	917 LOB	455-3131	Cortland, Oneonta, Utica-Rome, Cobleskill	41 South Main St		Oneonta	13820	(607)432-5524	Higher Ed
52	Thomas	Libous	R-C	512 LOB	455-2677	Binghamton	1607 State Off Building	44 Hawley St	Binghamton	13901	(607)773-8771	
53	George	Winner, Jr.	R-I-C	802 LOB	455-2091		228 Lake St	P.O. Box 588	Elmira	14902	(607)732-2765	Higher Ed
54	Michael	Nozzolio	R-I-C	409 LOB	455-2366		119 Fall St		Seneca Falls	13148	(888)568-9816	
55	Jim	Alesi	R-I-C	905 LOB	455-2015		220 Packett's Landing		Fairport	14450	(585)223-1800	Higher Ed
56	Joseph	Robach	R-I-C-W	902 LOB	455-2909		2300 West Ridge Rd		Rochester	14626	(585)225-3650	Higher Ed
57	Catharine	Young	R-I-C	805 LOB	455-3563	Fredonia, Geneseo, Alfred	Westgate Plaza	700 W State St	Olean	14760	(716)372-4901	Higher Ed
58	William	Stachowski	D-I-C-W	604 LOB	455-2426	Buffalo College	2030 Clinton St		Buffalo	14206	(716)826-3344	
59	Dale	Volker	R-I-C-W	427 CAP	455-3471	Geneseo	4729 Transit Rd	Forestream Plz	Depew	14043	(716)656-8544	
60	Antoine	Thompson	D	615 LOB	455-3371	Buffalo HSC, Buff College	65 Court St	Room 213	Buffalo	14202	(716)854-8705	
61	Mary Lou	Rath	R-I-C	310 LOB	455-3161	Buffalo	5500 Main St	Suite 260	Williamsville	14221	(716)633-0331	Higher Ed
62	George	Maziarz	R-I-C-W	915 LOB	455-2024	Brockport	2578 Niagara Falls Blvd		Wheatfield	14304	(716)731-8740	

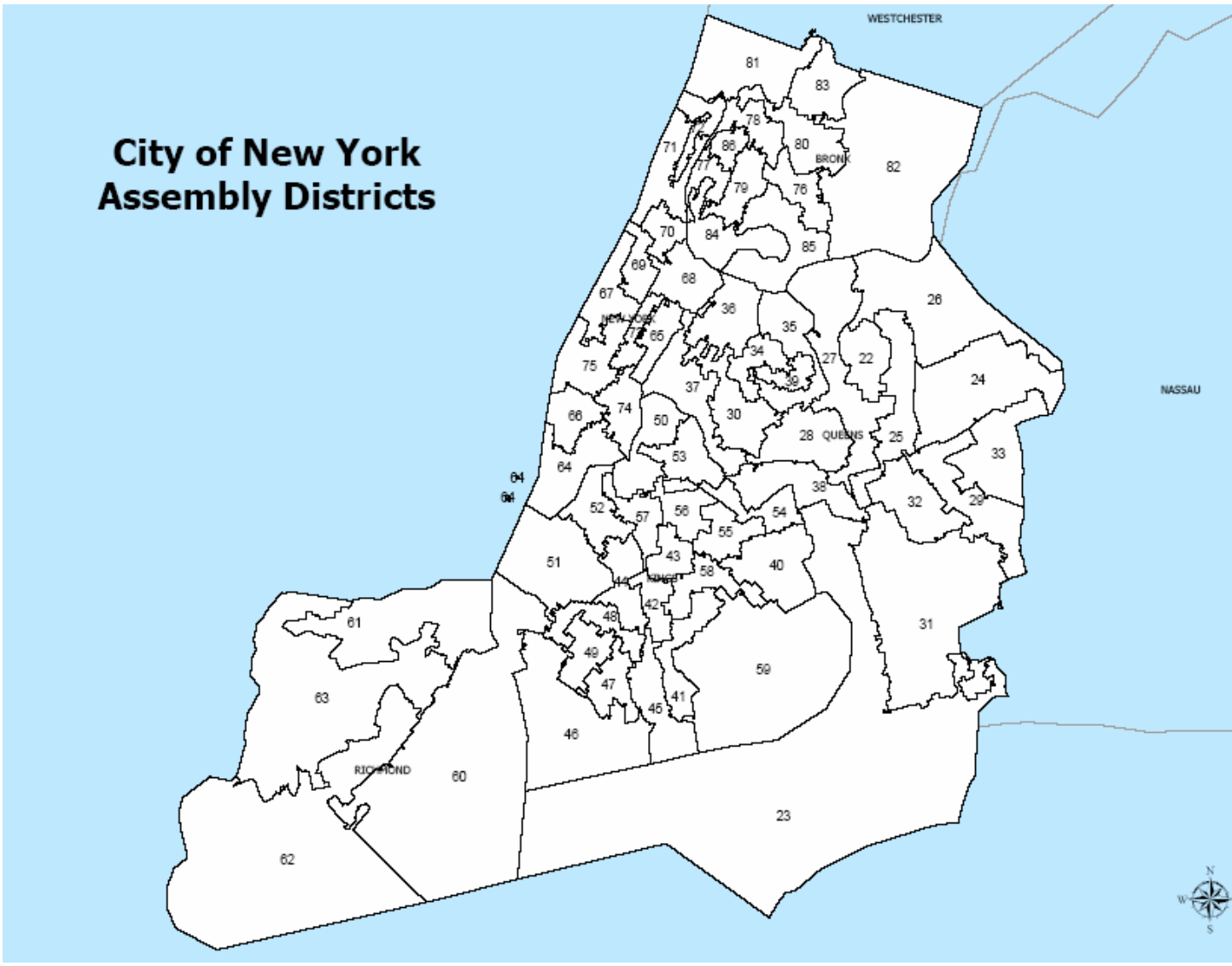
New York State Senate District Map (State)



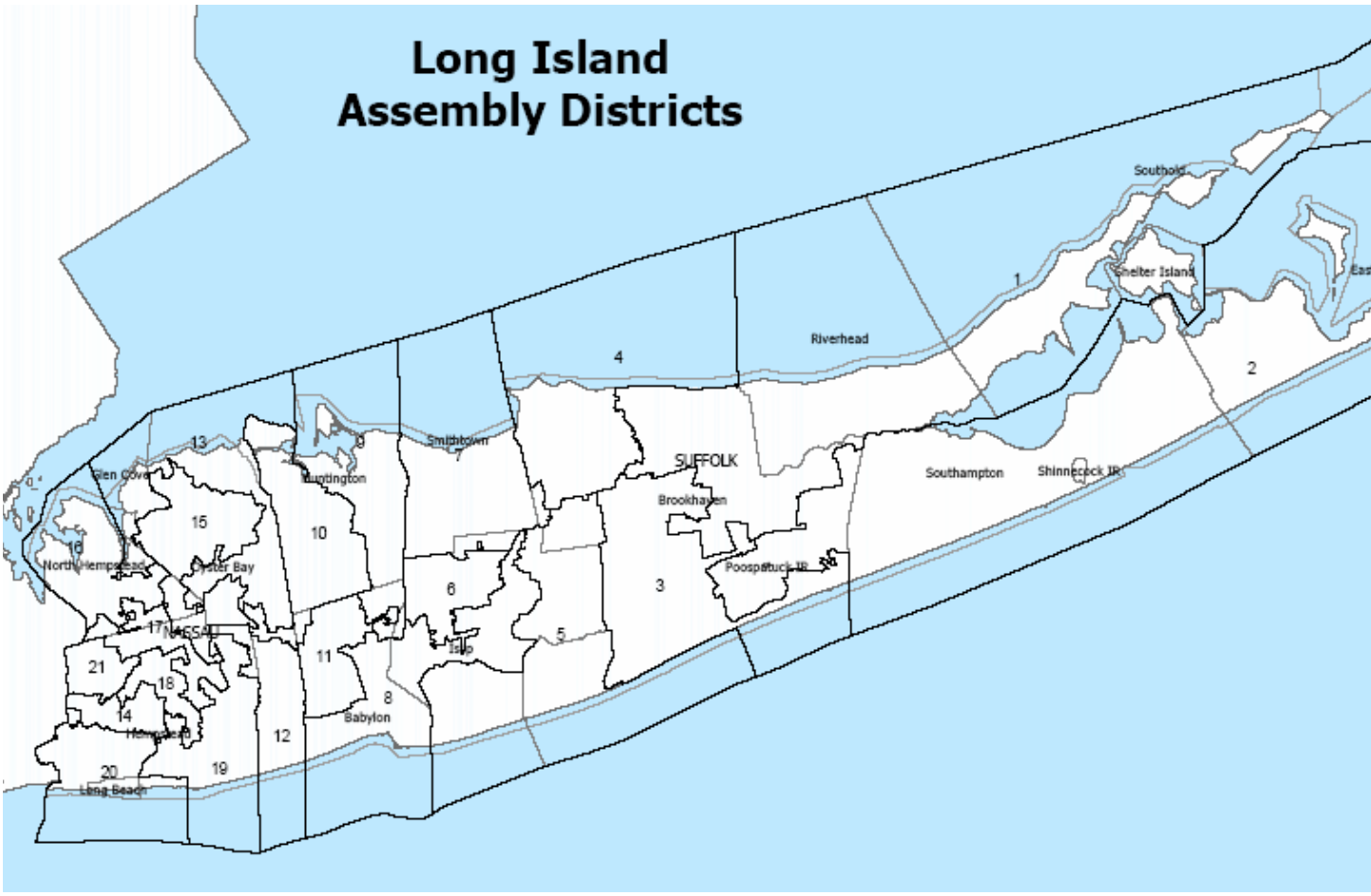
New York State Assembly District Map (State)



New York State Assembly District Map (NYC)



New York State Assembly District Map (Long Island)



Session Information

The annual session starts the Wednesday after the first Monday in January. Officially the legislature meets year round, however, in most years the majority of the work is done from January through June. Occasionally legislators return for one to three weeks in the fall. Special sessions are generally called by the Governor who sets the agenda; however, the legislature may call a special session by two-thirds vote.

Both houses together are called the Legislature. The larger house is called the Assembly and has 150 members elected for two-year terms. The smaller house is called the Senate and has 62 members who are also elected for two-year terms.

Copies of bills, calendars, committee agendas, etc., are available from the appropriate document room:

Assembly Document Room
Room 305 State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224
phone 518-455-5165

Senate Document Room
Room 317 State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224
phone 518-455-2311

Security Measures at the Legislative Office Building

- Visitors to the Capital are required to pass through metal detectors and have any bags or parcels scanned through an x-ray machine (please allow time to go through the security process). For a speedier process, leave personal belongings such as backpacks and large bags in the car. Sharp objects, such as pocket knives and nail clippers are not allowed into the building.

- A Driver's License is required to enter the V Lot (formerly P-3), the visitors lot under the Concourse.

- The x-ray machine security check before going into the Capital Building and LOB can have long lines on busy days or busy times (such as lunch time). Organize time accordingly and when in doubt, go early.

- If the security check is extremely backed up, you can go outside through the entrance to the Justice Building, and around to the State Street entrance to the LOB (security checks are there as well) for less of a crowd.

- Buses may not stop outside the State Street entrance, but most go to the Madison Avenue entrance by the State Museum, or another area, to load and unload passengers.

Albany Driving Directions

New York State Assembly and Senate offices are in the Capitol, Legislative Office Building and Agency Building 4, all part of the Empire State Plaza complex in downtown Albany, New York. The Empire State Plaza also houses many State agencies and commissions, as well as the New York State Museum and Empire Center at the Egg.

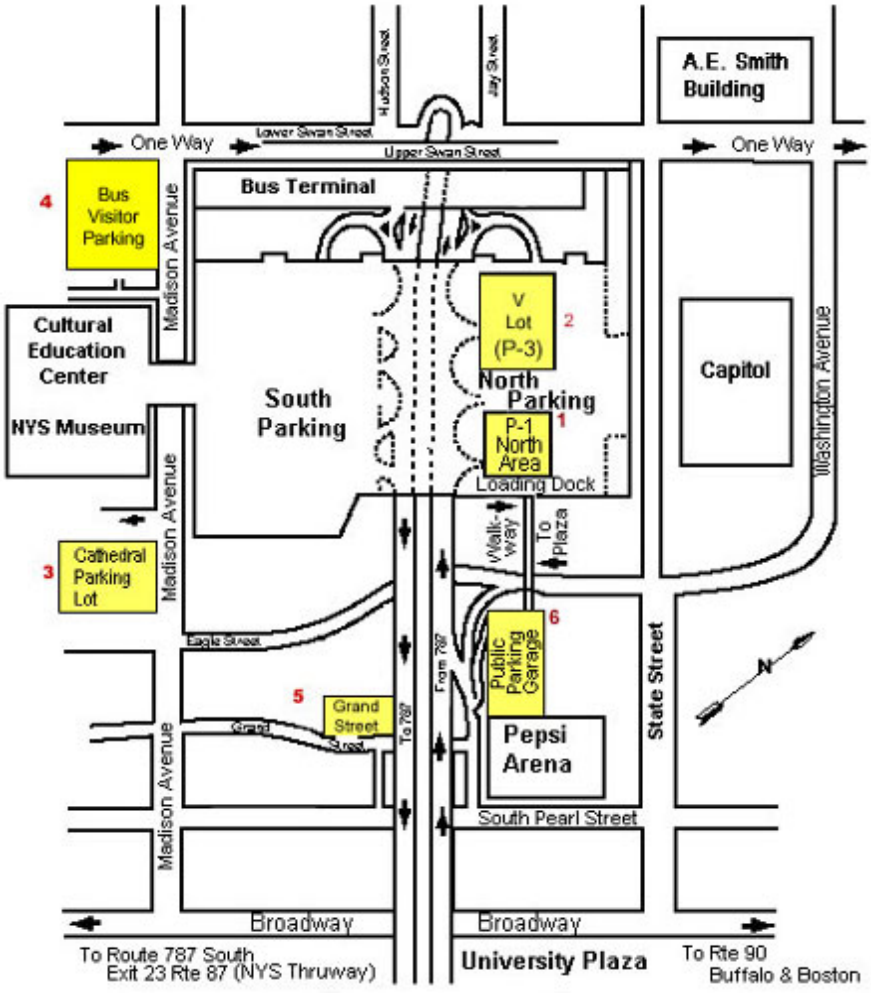
From the North: Take Interstate 87 (Northway) to Interstate 90 (East) exit, proceed east to Interstate 787 and take Empire Plaza exit.

From the South: Take New York State Thruway (Interstate 87) to Exit 23 - straight through Toll Booth to Interstate 787, then take Empire Plaza exit.

From the East: Take Interstate 90 and cross Hudson River. Take exit to Interstate 787 South, along river. Take Empire Plaza exit.

From the West: Take the New York State Thruway (Interstate 90) to Exit 24 (Albany), proceed east on Interstate 90 to Interstate 787 South, along river. Take Empire Plaza Exit.

Visitor Parking



Empire State Plaza Concourse Map

Directions to UUP/NYSUT Building

800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110

South and West	North	East
New York State Thruway to Exit 24. Pay the toll. Follow the Northway (I-87) signs. Take Exit 6 off the Northway. At the end of the exit ramp turn left (west). Continue on Troy Schenectady Road (Rte 7) for approximately 1 mile Turn left at the light, onto NYSUT Drive. The Cool Insurance Agency is on the corner. Follow signs for NYSUT Parking. Visitors and disabled parking are designated. Note: there will be no access to the site directly from Route 7	North: Northway (I-87) south to Exit 6. At the end of the exit ramp turn right (west). Continue on Troy Schenectady Road (Rte7) for approximately 1 mile. Turn left at the light, onto NYSUT Drive. The Cool Insurance Agency is on the corner. Follow signs for NYSUT Parking. Visitors and disabled parking are designated. Note: there will be no access to the site directly from Route 7	I-90 west to the Northway (I-87). Follow the Northway (I-87 north) to Exit 6. At the end of the exit ramp turn left (west). Continue on Troy Schenectady Road (Rte7) for approximately 1 mile. Turn left at the light, onto NYSUT Drive. The Cool Insurance Agency is on the corner. Follow signs for NYSUT Parking. Visitors and disabled parking are designated. Note: there will be no access to the site directly from Route 7

Airport

Airport: Follow airport exit signs to toll booth. Pay the parking toll and follow the signs for the Northway (I-87 north). Follow the North way (I-87 north to Exit 6. At the end of the exit ramp turn left (west). Continue on Troy Schenectady Road (Rte 7) for approximately 1 mile.

Train Station

Go North on East St. toward Willow St. by turning left. Turn left onto Partition ST. Turn right on Broadway. Turn Right on Washington Ave. Turn left to take the I-90 ramp towards Albany/Troy. Merge onto I-90W. Take the I-87 N/Northway exit. Take Exit 6 off the Northway. At the end of the exit ramp turn left (west). Continue on Troy Schenectady Road (Rte 7) for approximately 1 mile Turn left at the light, onto NYSUT Drive. The Cool Insurance Agency is on the corner. Follow signs for NYSUT Parking. Visitors and disabled parking are designated.

Note: there will be no access to the site directly from Route 7

Additional Resources

Books about the Legislative Process and Lobbying at the State Level

Governing the Empire State: An Insider's Guide. Albany: State of New York Management Resources Project, 1988. (see pages 100-119 on getting a bill through the legislature.)

When Colleges Lobby States: The Higher Education/State Government Connection. Edited by Leonard E. Goodall. Washington: American Association of State Colleges and Universities, 1987.

The Government and Politics of New York State. By Joseph F. Zimmerman. New York: New York University Press, 1987.

The Lobbying Handbook: A Guide to Effective Lobbying in New York State. Albany: New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations, 1984.

New York Politics and Government: Competition and Compassion. By Sarah Liebschutz, et al. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998.

Governing New York State. Eds. Jeffrey Stonecash, John Kenneth White, and Peter W. Colby. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1994.

New York State Government: What it Does, How it Works. Robert B. Ward. Albany: Rockefeller Institute of Government Press, State University of New York Press, 2002.

Lobbying for Higher Education: How Colleges and Universities Influence Federal Policy. Constance Ewing Cook. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1998.

Legislator Information

The New York Red Book. Biennial. Guilderland: New York Legal Publishing Corp. (Good source for biographical information about legislators and other public policy makers).

The New York State Directory. Annual. San Mateo, California: Walkers' Western Research. (Names, addresses, and phone numbers for all the key players in New York State public policy).

Grass Roots Lobbying Plan's NYS Legislative Reference Guide. Each chapter will receive a supply of this convenient listing of New York State legislators.

Important Contact Information

UUP Administrative Office:	(518) 640-6600, 1-800-342-4206
NYSUT:	(518) 213-6000, 1-800-342-9810

Robert Trimarchi Coordinator of Research and Legislation	Ext 649	rtrimarc@uupmail.org
Michelle Carr Research/Legislation Assistant	Ext 628	mcarr@uupmail.org
T.B.A. John M. Reilly Legislative Intern	Ext 642	

Governor Eliot Spitzer	518-474-8390
NYS Senate	518-455-2800
NYS Assembly	518-455-4100
Senate Voting Records	518-455-2245
Assembly Voting Records	518-455-4218
Status of Bills	800-342-9860

If you want to check whether a bill on a particular subject has been introduced, call the UUP office, we can check on voting records, status and provide other information about bills.

Important Web Pages

UUP	http://www.uupinfo.org
NYSUT	http://www.nysut.org
New York State Home Page	http://www.state.ny.us
NYS Assembly Home Page	http://assembly.state.ny.us
NYS Senate Home Page	http://www.senate.state.ny.us

Notes