



SENATOR JIM ALESI



Community Update 03/28/12

SAFER Visits Albany



Senate Photography

Last week I welcomed members of SAFER (Survivors Advocating for Effective Reform) to my Albany office. The organization was in Albany to discuss legislative initiatives that emphasize the need for enhanced protections for victims of domestic violence.

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to speak at the Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium's 13th Annual Legislative Breakfast on Domestic Violence. The forum included an overview of the 2011 domestic violence legislation signed into law, as well as proposed legislation for the 2012 Legislative Session. The Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium represents over 50 agencies and organizations that are practitioners in the field of domestic violence.

As this Legislative Session continues, I will again support legislation that stresses zero tolerance for domestic violence.



Judge Patricia D. Marks Selected as 2012 “Woman of Distinction”

Dear Neighbor,

It is my great pleasure to announce that Judge Patricia Marks of Penfield, Interim President and CEO of Veterans Outreach Center, Inc., is my selection as a 2012 New York State Senate “Woman of Distinction.” Judge Marks will be honored May 15th, at a ceremony at the State Capitol in Albany where each honoree’s photograph and biography will become part of a special exhibit proclaiming the contributions of these exemplary women.

There are remarkable women in our midst whose lives, work or special accomplishments contribute to making our communities better, making our families stronger and serve as special examples to others. The Senate’s “Women of Distinction” program provides a special opportunity to honor women like Judge Marks for their achievements and to thank them for the pride they bring to our communities. I am proud of Judge Marks’ many achievements and it is an honor and a privilege to nominate her for this award.

The Women of Distinction program was created as part of the Senate’s celebration of Women’s History Month. In addition to recognizing present-day women, each March, the Senate hosts a display that honors other distinguished women from New York’s past. The Historic Women of Distinction exhibit can be viewed online by clicking [here](#).

Sincerely,



Senator Alesi Meets with School Board Members in Albany



Above, I am pictured with Alka Phatak, Pittsford Central School District Board of Education Member (Senate Photography)

On Tuesday, Board of Education members from school districts throughout Monroe County came to the State Capitol in Albany to discuss education issues specific to schools in our communities, including the upcoming State Budget. I greatly appreciate the input of all board members and I will continue fighting to see these concerns addressed.

It is crucial that our students continue to receive the available resources required of a quality education to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully meet their challenges and opportunities in the future.

Clothing and Footwear Sales Tax Change Effective April 1st

New York State will soon provide consumers and businesses a welcome relief at the cash register. Beginning April 1, 2012 clothing and footwear sold for less than \$110 each will be exempt from the New York State's 4% sales tax. The 4% state portion of the sales tax was eliminated in an effort to help consumers save money while bringing in additional revenue to stores throughout the state. Additional information can be found at the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance [website](#) and by visiting the links below.

- [Pub 718-C](#), *Sales and Use Tax Rates on Clothing and Footwear*
- [TSB-M-12\(3\)S](#), *State Sales Tax Exemption for Clothing and Footwear Costing less than \$110 is Restored Effective April 1, 2012*
- [TSB-M-11\(3\)S](#), *Sales Tax Exemption for Clothing and Footwear Effective April 1, 2011, through March 31, 2012*
- [TSB-M-06\(6\)S](#), *Year-Round Sales and Use Tax Exemptions of Clothing, Footwear, and Items Used to Make or Repair Exempt Clothing* (for a complete description of the clothing and footwear exemption and a listing of exempt and taxable items)

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