



**NEW YORK
STATE SENATE**
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New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

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PROMOTING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN

Fighting Domestic Abuse

Senator Foley has taken unprecedented action regarding domestic abusers. When a fellow senator was convicted of charges stemming from a domestic assault, Senator Foley demonstrated leadership and courage by successfully sponsoring an expulsion resolution to remove the individual from the State Senate. Senator Foley released the following statement about this important, historic action, the first of its kind in over 90 years:

“Senator Monserrate’s expulsion was necessary because of the totality of his actions. Domestic violence is unacceptable in any form and from any member of our society, but particularly from those members who are entrusted by the public to uphold the laws of our state. It certainly has no place in the New York State Senate. Now that this issue has been decided, it is time for us to move forward. There are many serious issues facing New York, and we must work together to solve them.”



Senator Foley speaks out at a press conference in Albany about protecting victims of domestic violence.

Protecting the Right to Vote

Women who are victims of domestic violence should not be forced to forego fundamental voting rights as a result of fleeing their abuser. Allowing this to happen is handing a victory to those who victimize their partners. Senator Foley sponsored legislation that was recently signed into law by Governor Paterson that protects the rights and security of victims of domestic violence. The new law allows victims of domestic violence to request a court order that requires the Board of Elections to keep their registration records confidential. This means that victims will be afforded an added layer of protection in keeping their new address out of the hands of their abusers. Senator Foley had the following to say about the new law:

“We can never do enough to protect victims of domestic violence. By overhauling a broken and antiquated law that punishes victims, we are taking another important step forward in helping victims rebuild their lives. Keeping the location of these individuals confidential allows them to exercise their fundamental right to vote while helping to ensure their safety.”

Under the old law, the Board of Elections was required to provide the address of any registered voter to any person who submits the request in writing and cites the applicable law. As a result, victims of domestic violence were forced to choose between security and voting, and often did not register to vote.

Promoting Women-Owned Businesses in New York State



Following the revival of the Small Business Advisory Council during his time as Brookhaven Town Supervisor, Senator Foley, as a member of the Senate's Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business Committee, is now focused on creating incentives for women-owned businesses in New York State. His efforts led to the passage of several key pieces of legislation that are unprecedented in scope, which give women-owned businesses expanded opportunities to operate in our state.

Providing New Tools to Fight Breast Cancer



Senator Foley is shown speaking with staff at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital about the new digital mammography machine purchased through a grant provided by the senator. The new diagnostic equipment will increase the efficiency and accuracy of screenings performed at the hospital.