



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kenneth P. LaValle

Democrats Stall Capital Construction Projects

KENNETH P. LAVALLE May 3, 2010

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Senator Kenneth P. LaValle expressed frustration over the defeat of an amendment to allow projects that are important to job creation to move forward. For the third week in a row, Senate Democrats have voted down a Republican-sponsored amendment that would have provided funding for all capital construction projects and did not include any new spending.

The Governor's decision to suspend payments on contracts until the new budget is in place has impacted road and bridge contractors throughout the state. The result has been layoffs and the shut-down of transportation related projects. In addition, important economic development ventures at the State University of New York (SUNY) campuses, environmental conservation, water, and sewer projects have been put on hold.

According to Senator LaValle, the funding for these projects has already been appropriated. The amendment would allow for them to be funded through September 15, 2010. The measure does not ask for additional monies and ensures that our roads and bridges remain safe for motorists.

“The capital projects that have been stalled are important to the safety of our roadways, the creation of jobs, and the economic health of the state,” said Senator LaValle. “It is frustrating that the Senate Democrats have continually refused to join us in allowing these projects to move forward for the benefit of all New Yorkers.”