



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

Statement On 2011 Legislative Session

JAMES L. SEWARD June 24, 2011

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ALBANY, 06/23/11 – State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today commented on the close of the 2011 legislative session:

“Albany is functioning again and a number of my top priorities were realized during the 2011 legislative session as a result. The prime focus was on economic issues – improving the bottom line for families, individuals and seniors and enhancing growth opportunities for our small businesses – and the accomplishments are evident.

“The on-time state budget was a major step; lower state spending, tax cuts and job creating tax incentives were all included in the plan. Further, lower energy costs through Recharge NY, creation of regional economic development councils and restoration of vital agriculture programs will foster growth specifically upstate.

“A long sought property tax cap was also finally realized, a needed weapon in the battle against the rising cost of home ownership. Coupled with the cap, mandate relief will help school and local government officials keep their costs in check.

“Sweeping ethics reforms to restore public trust in state government, major insurance law improvements that enhance coverage and accessibility and a rational tuition policy for our SUNY schools that will help students plan for their educational future and improve campuses were also adopted.

“I joined my colleagues in the state senate and took the lead on these and other key initiatives that will upgrade the day to day lives of New Yorkers, expand our economic prospects and lead to a better performing Empire State.”