



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Martin J. Golden

Brooklyn State Legislators Call for Legislative Action to Increase Penalties for Crimes of Child Prostitution

MARTIN J. GOLDEN August 17, 2011

Brooklyn –State Senator Martin J. Golden (R-C-I, 22nd District) and State Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis (R-C, 60th District), today are calling on their colleagues in the New York State Legislature to pass legislation that increases the penalties for prostitution offenses involving children (S.644/A.6165). Golden and Malliotakis are the legislative sponsors respectively.

A recent court sentencing, where the defendant received community service after having inappropriate relations with a minor, highlights the need for New York State to punish those who prostitute and patronize minors.

Senator Marty Golden stated, “ New York State has a long and proud tradition of protecting those most vulnerable. This legislation sends a swift, severe and certain message to those who prey on our young people -- New York State will not stand for your behavior anymore.”

The legislation would increase the penalties for prostitution offenses which have remained the same since 1978 and do not adequately reflect the seriousness of crimes involving the prostitution of children. Increases in penalties are needed to assure that persons that are convicted of these offenses will be appropriately punished and then supervised so that children will be protected from the risk of further offenses by these persons.

Senator Golden continued, "As a former New York City Police Officer and as a father, I want to make sure that our neighborhood, our City and our State, is safe for our children. It is one of the most fundamental quality of life issues we face to ensure our children are protected from those who would victimize them. The passage of this bill will allow all parents to know that there are stronger laws on the books to protect their children."

Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis stated, "As we read about more sex offenses committed against children, it is crucial that the legislature acts upon strengthening penalties for child prostitution. This is yet another reason why this legislation should be passed. By ensuring the appropriate degree of punishment, the children of our state would be better protected from the disgusting and cruel world of child prostitution."