



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Malcolm Smith

Statement from Senator Malcolm A. Smith Re: The Passing of the Honorable Dora Young

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August 23, 2011

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“I am deeply saddened over the loss of one of the pioneers of Queens, a woman who was like a “surrogate mother” to me, Dora Young. She was a trailblazer as the first African American Woman to serve as Vice Chair and acting Chair of the Queens Democratic Organization.

“She served the community for almost four decades with great pride and distinction. Her leadership was monumental in Southeast Queens and she will have an everlasting remembrance to all and especially to me. Her death leaves a void not only throughout the city but also the state. Dora was a woman of active compassion. She didn’t just care, she did something about it. She never sat on the sidelines; she rolled up her sleeves and fought for our community. The future will never be the same. She was a role model for all who will be forever missed.”