



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

George Latimer

## Senator Latimer & Assemblymember Mayer Host State Budget Forum in Yonkers

GEORGE LATIMER February 26, 2013



On Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Grinton I Will Library, State Senator George Latimer (37<sup>th</sup> SD) and Assemblymember Shelley Mayer (90<sup>th</sup> AD) hosted a community budget forum to provide residents an opportunity to share their budgetary concerns and priorities with their representatives.

The three-hour forum provided community groups, non-profits, local elected representatives, and residents an opportunity to speak for up to four minutes and submit written testimony concerning the 2013-14 Executive Budget. Approximately 50 people, in individual capacities and as representatives of

numerous organizations, attended the meeting to express their views on issues ranging from flood mitigation and mandate relief to funding for public schools and other initiatives.

“This budget continues our commitment to tax reduction and responsible, intelligent spending,” stated Senator Latimer. “The budget contains no new taxes and funds critical programs that benefit the lives of all New Yorkers. I’m glad that a wide array of groups and individuals had the chance to share their opinions directly with us in an open forum so that we can go back to Albany and advocate on their behalf.”

'It is extremely important that as elected officials we hear directly from our constituents about the state budget and how it will affect them. This forum provides us with the information we need to fight for our constituents while we push for a budget that is responsible, timely, and fair,' said Assemblymember Shelley Mayer.

Latimer and Mayer both reiterated their optimism that the budget will be done prior to the April 1 deadline.