



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph A. Griffo

Griffo, Butler Applaud Hawkinsville Dam Decision

JOSEPH A. GRIFFO September 10, 2014

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BOONVILLE – Sen. Joseph A. Griffo and Assemblyman Marc Butler issued the following statements regarding the future of the Hawkinsville Dam:

“I am pleased to learn that the Hudson River-Black River Regulating District board decided unanimously that the Hawkinsville Dam should be repaired, not removed,” said Griffo, R-Rome. “I’ve advocated for the dam to remain in place because tearing it down would create a negative economic impact on Boonville. Many outdoor enthusiasts enjoy the still waters for swimming, boating and fishing, which would be lost if the dam wasn’t in place. The board

made a common sense financial decision as well, since the cost of removing the dam was much more expensive than remediation. I remain committed to helping find a permanent solution to the Department of Environmental Conservation's spillway concern, especially one that takes into consideration the economic impact of the dam on the community and the opinions of the residents living nearby."

"The near century old Hawkinsville Dam is of great historical and economic importance to Boonville," said Butler, R-Newport. "It provides navigable waters for recreational boaters, paddlers and swimmers and is cherished by the residents whose property is located near the river. It also ensures water is plentiful for residents who use wells. I am pleased the Hudson River-Black River Regulating District board has rejected a proposal to tear down the dam. I will continue to listen to the concerns of the community and help in any way I can for the benefit of the people of Boonville and the surrounding area."