



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

## Statement From Senate Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins on Office of Special Investigation

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS April 22, 2015

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### STATEMENT FROM THE SENATOR

**Andrea Stewart-Cousins**  
*Senate Democratic Leader*  
*New York State Senator, 35th District*

“By voting down legislation to create the Office of Special Investigation, the Senate Republicans demonstrated that they do not believe reforms are needed to ensure all New Yorkers, regardless of age, race or gender, are treated with respect and equality. The fight to reform the state criminal justice system is not over, and we will continue our efforts to ensure every New Yorker feels safe, secure and protected.”

## BACKGROUND:

- Senate Bill S.2180 would have created the Office of Special Investigation within the Attorney General's Office. This office would have automatically reviewed any death of an unarmed civilian in a police interaction. Additionally, New Yorkers will be able to petition this office to take over investigations in special circumstances.
- This initiative was announced in December 2014, as part of the Senate Democratic Conference's push to reform the state's criminal justice system.
  - [12.09.14 Criminal Justice Reform Release](#)