



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas K. Duane

## Statement from Senator Duane in Response to Senator Grisanti's Comments on Marriage Equality

THOMAS K. DUANE March 9, 2011

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"It is truly sad and unfortunate that Senator Grisanti would publicly compare Marriage Equality and my right to marry the person I love, with cats and dogs.

"Lady Gaga appropriately and powerfully used her platform to draw attention to Senator Grisanti's position on Marriage Equality. I sincerely hope that Senator Grisanti will apologize for his misstatement, and that when he meets with and has an open discussion with those Western New Yorkers who are being denied equal recognition of their families, he will listen with an open heart and mind.

"I believe that when he hears the stories of the denial of family recognition imposed on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender New Yorkers, he will join Lady Gaga and so many other New Yorkers -- in fact, a majority of New Yorkers -- who support Marriage Equality.

"I also hope that the majority of New York State Senators will recognize my right to marry the person I love, now."