



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Velmanette Montgomery

## Senator Velmanette Montgomery's June 23rd Albany Pulse

VELMANETTE MONTGOMERY June 22, 2011



Senator Montgomery joined forces with nurse practitioners and NP students from Hunter College to garner support for the passage of her bill.



this week to Senator Montgomery's bill (S.325) permitting New York's more than 13,000 nurse practitioners to sign death certificates in the same manner as physicians and other authorized parties.

Senator Montgomery, a member of the Senate Health Committee, noted that current law allows nurse practitioners to pronounce death, ascertain the cause of death and provide the medical information required by the death certificate.

"Since nurse practitioners are frequently the medical professionals in last attendance when a patient passes away, it is only logical and appropriate that they be given the authority to certify the death. My bill will go a long way towards making an often arduous and emotionally charged process much smoother for the decedent's family and loved ones."

Nurse practitioners are permitted to sign death certificates in 17 other states.