



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Velmanette Montgomery

## Senator Montgomery Stands With Senate Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

SENATOR VELMANETTE MONTGOMERY August 15, 2017



Yesterday I was proud to join my colleagues in government to urge all Democrats to unite behind the historic leadership of Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, the first woman to lead a conference in the NY State Legislature.

Though this rally was planned far in advance, it represented something deeper within the context of the racialized criticisms aimed at Senator Stewart-Cousins last week and of course the acts of hatred and terror that were carried out in Charlottesville this past weekend. The

outpouring of love and support and strength from such a wide range of elected officials should send a strong message to those who would dare bring hate and intolerance to our doorstep.

My colleagues and I came out not just in support of our Leader but in support of all the constituents who rely on us to advocate for them, protect them and legislate in a way that betters their lives. I thank Senator Stewart-Cousins for the brilliant work she does to serve our state. Under her leadership, the Senate Democratic Conference continues to fight for issues such as healthcare, including access to reproductive health; funding for public education; tenant's rights and affordable housing; criminal justice reforms and civil rights.