



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Gustavo Rivera

State Senator Gustavo Rivera on the 2023-2024 New York State Budget

GUSTAVO RIVERA May 3, 2023

| ISSUE: **2023-2024 BUDGET, HEALTH, THE BIG UGLY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, SENATE DISTRICT 33**

State Senator Gustavo Rivera (D, WF - Bronx) joined his colleagues in the Senate Majority to vote for the 10 bills of the 2023-2024 New York State Budget. Senator Rivera voted in favor of all bills, including Aid to Localities, Debt Service, Revenue, Capital Projects, State Operations, Legislature and Judiciary, Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation (TEDE), Public Protection and General Government (PPGG), Education, Labor, and Family Assistance (ELFA), and Health and Mental Hygiene (HMH).

BUDGET OVERVIEW

“This budget represents the best agreement we could get due to the Governor’s intransigence. Unfortunately, this is a budget of lost opportunities. I am very grateful to Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins and our entire Democratic Conference for fighting to reduce the harm that many of the Executive proposals would have caused. In the short time that we have left this session, I know that our conference will focus on addressing the concerns of working-class New Yorkers that were not addressed by the Governor’s misguided priorities.

Instead of directly addressing the severe affordability crisis facing millions of New Yorkers, the Governor prioritized proposals that serve wealthy and powerful interests. Housing costs are the driving factor in the rising cost of living across our state, so we must take action to create an affordable housing market where homeownership is accessible and renters have stability. Yet, Good Cause Eviction was discarded, the minimum wage increase proposal needed by so many was watered down, and the resounding call to tax billionaires and corporations went ignored.

Holding the line on the issues that New Yorkers care the most about does not end with this budget. The Bronx sent me to Albany to advance policies that will keep them in affordable homes, provide services that make our communities safer, and ensure healthcare and stability for every New Yorker. I will remain relentless in fighting for proven solutions and governing in the interest of my neighbors and community.

HEALTH

After a decade of austerity in the health budget, we could and should have done more to ensure the long-term financial stability of struggling healthcare institutions, particularly our safety net hospitals and community-based health centers. This budget does begin to address the needs of struggling healthcare institutions by implementing historic Medicaid reimbursement rate increases for hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities, but we must do more.

