

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



JAMES L. SEWARD
SENATOR, 51ST DISTRICT

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November 9, 2011

Honorable Dean G. Skelos
Majority Leader and Temporary President
New York State Senate
332 Capitol
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Sen. Skelos:

Dean —

As you know, the rains of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee caused significant flooding in portions of my district, leading to the loss of homes, property, public infrastructure, businesses, and incomes. Many in my district lost everything – and are facing winter without heat, a place to live, or an income.

Their grief is compounded by school tax bills that arrived in their mailboxes; taxes due on homes which in some cases no longer exist.

I write to request that the state senate reconvene, along with the assembly, to consider several flooding-related initiatives that require the action of the legislature: senate bills 5888; 5891 and 5892. All three measures offer relief to local governments and local taxpayers.

In addition, I am preparing legislation that would offer flood victims an income tax credit against the property taxes they paid this fall (and will pay in January) on property no longer valued at its pre-flood level.

I would very much appreciate a timely session of the senate, in conjunction with the assembly, to consider the flood relief bills that my colleagues and I have advanced.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

J. Seward
JAMES L. SEWARD
State Senator

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