



New York State Senator  
**DAPHNE JORDAN**  
(R, C, IP, REF) 43RD SENATE DISTRICT



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the January 22nd edition of my Weekly Wrap! This week, we celebrated the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We also watched the peaceful transition of power from the 45th President to the now 46th President of the United States.

My Senate and local government colleagues and I continued to push, advocate, and publicly call for a better rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine. I also recognized Rensselaer County for their hard work in organizing and administering the vaccine to residents despite the incredibly low supply provided by the state. I also honored Harold Williams, a 98-year-old WWII Veteran for his devotion and sacrifice to our great country!

We are now three weeks into the 2021 Senate Session, and I'm highlighting a Committee that I've served on as the Ranking Republican member since 2019, the Senate's Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee in this week's Wrap, where I explain the Committee's importance to our economy. My Weekly Wrap also contains details about how I can help celebrate YOUR Milestone Moments, as well as links to my monthly column that was recently published in the Saratogian and Troy Record, respectively.

As always, I want to hear from YOU. If you have a comment, question, or concern, please email me at [jordan@nysenate.gov](mailto:jordan@nysenate.gov) or call my office at (518) 371-2751. Thank you for reading and subscribing to my Weekly Wrap. It's an honor and a privilege to serve you!

**- Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

**Statement from New York State Senator Daphne Jordan and New York State Assemblyman Jake Ashby on New York's chaotic initial rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine:**

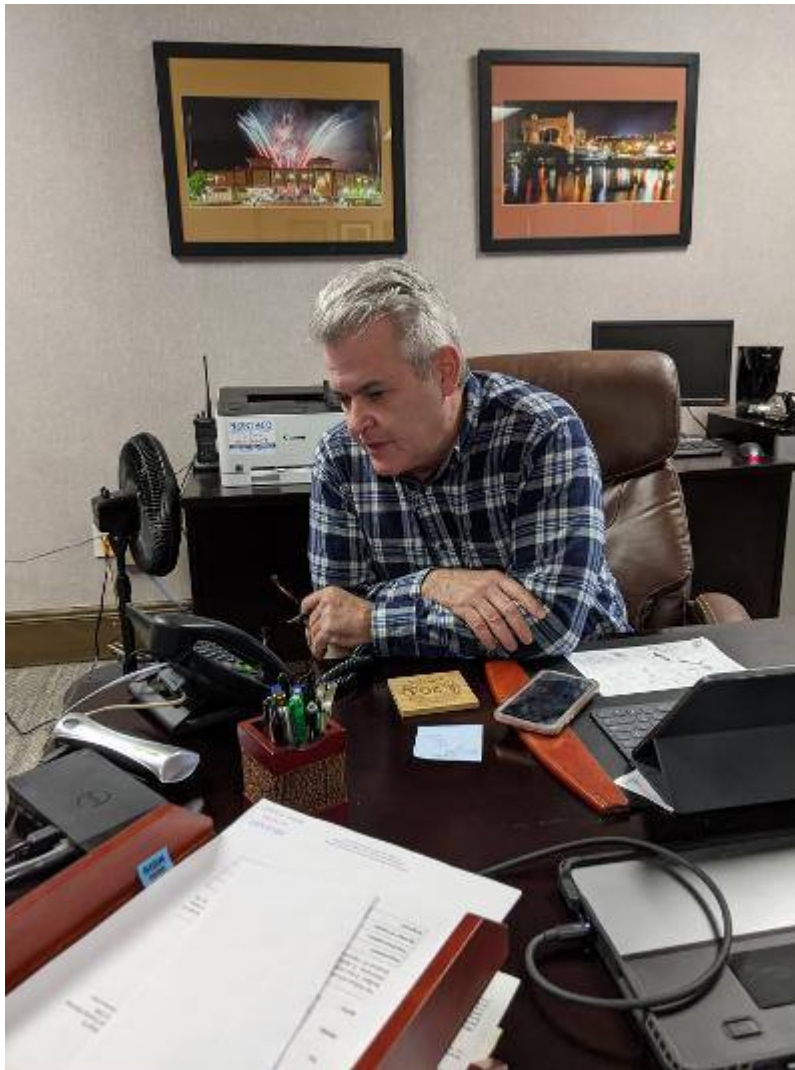


“New York State’s initial rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine has caused chaos and confusion. The state had several months to prepare a vaccine rollout that would be effective, well-managed, and orderly, yet the initial process has been anything but.

Gov. Cuomo needs to fix this broken process and ensure that our most vulnerable residents receive the COVID-19 vaccine as quickly as possible. The governor needs to coordinate with County governments to ensure that they have a readily available supply of the COVID-19 vaccine as our Counties are prepared to widely distribute the vaccines once they are made available. The timely administration of the COVID-19 vaccine is literally a matter of life and death and New Yorkers can’t be kept waiting any longer. The state can, and must, do better.”

**– Senator Daphne Jordan and Assemblyman Jake Ashby**

**Rensselaer County working hard for residents**



Thank you, Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin (pictured above), for working so efficiently and effectively despite a short supply of vaccines given by the State. They have partnered with Hudson Valley Community College for a point of distribution. The County health team and local volunteers from the Medical Reserve Corps are hard at work giving the vaccine to residents. We can always count on Rensselaer County and Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin for the best work and latest updates!

### **Saratoga County COVID-19 vaccine information and update**

The following detailed information is available at the Saratoga County website: <https://www.saratogacountyny.gov/>.

New York State recently required Saratoga County Public Health Services (SCPHS) to restrict administration of vaccine to the groups below. However, individuals whose first dose of vaccine was administered by SCPHS can still receive their second dose from SCPHS.

First Responders or Support Staff for First Responder Agencies

## Fire

State Fire Service, including firefighters and investigators (professional and volunteer)

Local Fire Service, including firefighters and investigators (professional and volunteer)

## Police and Investigations

State Police, including Troopers

State Park Police, DEC Police, Forest Rangers

SUNY Police

Sheriffs' Offices

County Police Departments and Police Districts

City, Town, and Village Police Departments

Transit Units of other Public Authority Police Departments

State Field Investigations, including DMV, SCOC, Justice Center, DFS, IG, Tax, OCFS, SLA

## Public Safety Communications

Emergency Communication and PSAP Personnel, including dispatchers and technicians

## Other Sworn and Civilian Personnel

Court Officers

Other Police or Peace Officers

Support or Civilian Staff for Any of the Above Services, Agencies, or Facilities

## Corrections

State DOCCS Personnel, including correction and parole officers

Local Correctional Facilities, including correction officers

Local Probation Departments, including probation officers

State Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Facilities

Local Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Facilities

## PreK-12 Schools

PreK-12 school or school district faculty or staff (includes all teachers, substitute teachers, student teachers, school administrators, paraprofessional staff, and support staff, including bus drivers)

Contractors working in a PreK-12 school or school district (including contracted bus drivers)

Licensed, registered, approved or legally exempt group childcare

## Public Transit

Airline and airport employees

Passenger railroad employees

Subway and mass transit employees (i.e., MTA, LIRR, Metro North, NYC Transit, Upstate transit)

Ferry employees  
Port Authority employees  
Public bus employees

In-person college faculty and instructors  
Public facing grocery store workers

Individuals in these groups can register for a SCPHS-operated vaccination clinic [here](#). SCPHS utilizes the New York State registration system, so you will be taken to a New York State website to register for SCPHS operated clinics. If there are not any available appointments, you will receive a message stating “No Appointments Available.” We encourage you to try again at a later time.

Proof of occupational eligibility is required to be shown at all vaccination clinics. Such proof may include an employee ID card or badge, a letter from an employer, or a pay stub. In addition to occupational eligibility, all individuals must be able to document that they live or work in New York State. Individuals who cannot provide acceptable documentation at the time of their appointment will not be vaccinated.

New York State has established a network of distribution sites that includes pharmacies (who are being provided vaccines for persons aged 65 and older), hospitals (who are being provided with vaccines for healthcare workers), federally-qualified health centers, ambulatory centers, and state-operated clinics. Because vaccine supplies are limited, appointment availability at all locations is limited.

The following pharmacies may have vaccine for persons aged 65 and older:

Price Chopper

All eligible persons, including those aged 65 and older, can be vaccinated at state-operated clinics. To register for these clinics, [click here](#) or call 1-833-697-4829. SCPHS is currently not permitted to provide vaccinations to persons aged 65 and older, healthcare workers or any other groups.

SCPHS continues to work with New York State to call for an increased supply of vaccine from the federal government. When supply increases, we are ready to get shots into arms, in accordance with the state’s distribution plan. Until then, patience is difficult, but required. Please continue to wear a mask, socially distance and stop the spread.

### **Columbia County COVID-19 Vaccine nformation and update**

The following detailed information is available at the Columbia County

Department of Public Health website:

<https://www.columbiacountynyhealth.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-information-2/>.

The Columbia County Department of Health is committed to providing the COVID-19 Vaccine to every person who resides and/or works in our county. We are receiving a very limited small amount of vaccine from New York State and we ask that you understand the following:

As we receive it, we have been providing the vaccine to those category eligible people as directed by New York State.

We have no control over how many doses of the vaccine we are given by New York State each week. So far, the very small amount of vaccine we have been provided has been different each week. We have not been provided the amounts we have requested.

We have no control over how someone must register for a vaccine clinic. Registering through the link is required by New York State. Everyone who wants the vaccine must register for an appointment (slot).

We are ready and able to provide the vaccine to large numbers of people when it is given to us by New York State.

As more vaccine becomes available, clinics will be added to the link below. When you click on the clinic, it will advise you if there are available time slots you can register for. Please know that there will be times when New York State directs that the vaccine be given to specific groups. While our Department of Health does this, there will be no link posted for a period of time.

The Federal government and New York State have also contracted with pharmacies to provide the vaccine to people 65+. We have not been included in this process and have limited information about it.

We understand your concern and ask for your continued patience. Currently, this is a slow process, however, we will continue to provide the vaccine to every person who wants it no matter how long it takes. The New York State Governor has said it may take 14-weeks to vaccinate eligible people in the current categories: 1A, 1B and 65+.

Due to the limited supply we receive from New York State, we can only provide the vaccine for people who live or work in Columbia County.

Columbia County Information Line:

For those people 65 years and older who can not access the internet and has no

one who can help them access the internet to register for the vaccine clinic, AND/OR is home-bound and can not travel or has no ability to arrange travel to a vaccine clinic at Columbia Greene Community College outside of Hudson, you may contact the:

Columbia County Information Line at 518-697-5560, Monday – Friday between 9am and 4pm.

Due to the very limited small supply of vaccine provided by the state, it may take a substantial amount of time (weeks) before we can contact you to arrange the vaccination. If you have an opportunity to get the vaccine, or a pharmacy contacts you to provide the vaccine to you, we recommend you DO IT. Do not feel that you must wait for the county Department of Health to contact you.

Please check below daily for updates on available clinics and appointments:

Available Clinic Registration: No Available Appointments at this time.

At this time, New York State has directed that the COVID-19 Vaccine doses designated to our county be given to specific groups in 1A, 1B, & 65+. While our Department of Health continues to provide the vaccine to these groups as directed by the state, currently there are no links available for appointments by the general public. As this slow process moves forward, please check back for available appointments.

Current Eligible Categories: 1A, 1B, 65+

To check what category you are in, go to:

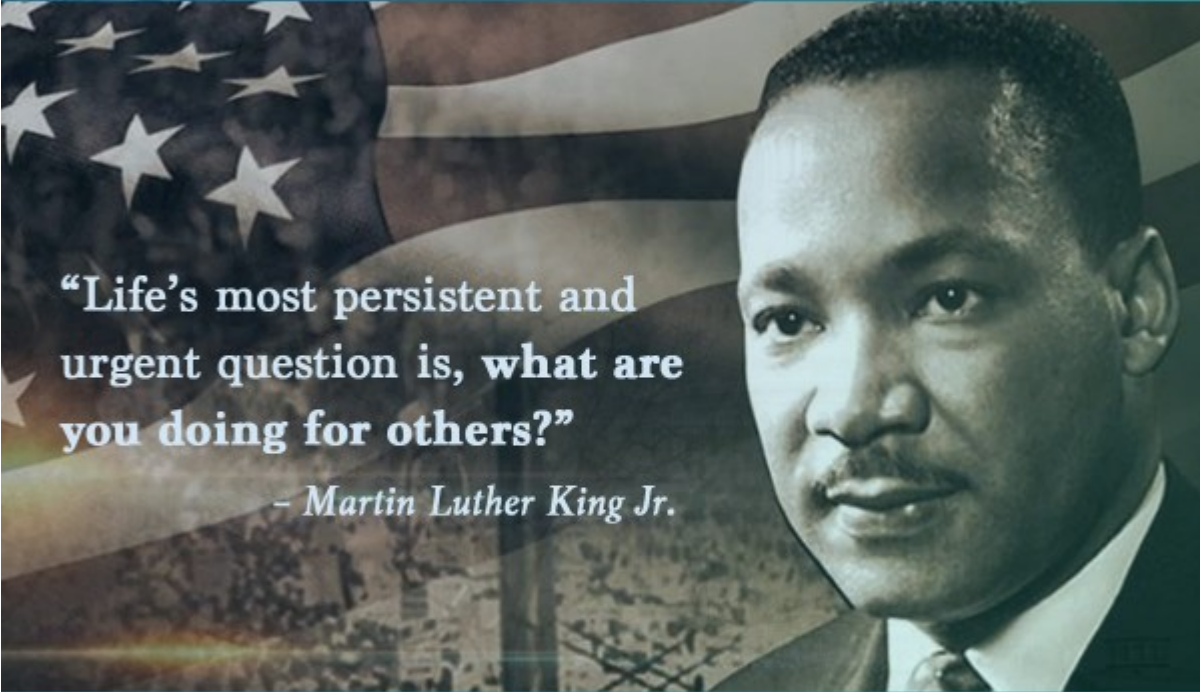
<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/phased-distribution-vaccine>

Number of people given the vaccine by Columbia County Department of Health as of January 15, 2021: 1,200

You may also contact the New York State COVID-19 Vaccine Hotline at 1-833-697-4829 or <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/> to register for the vaccine in the Capital District area. You must understand that by calling the state hotline or going to the website and registering to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, you may have to travel somewhere outside of Columbia County to receive it.

**Observing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

# MLK DAY JANUARY 18



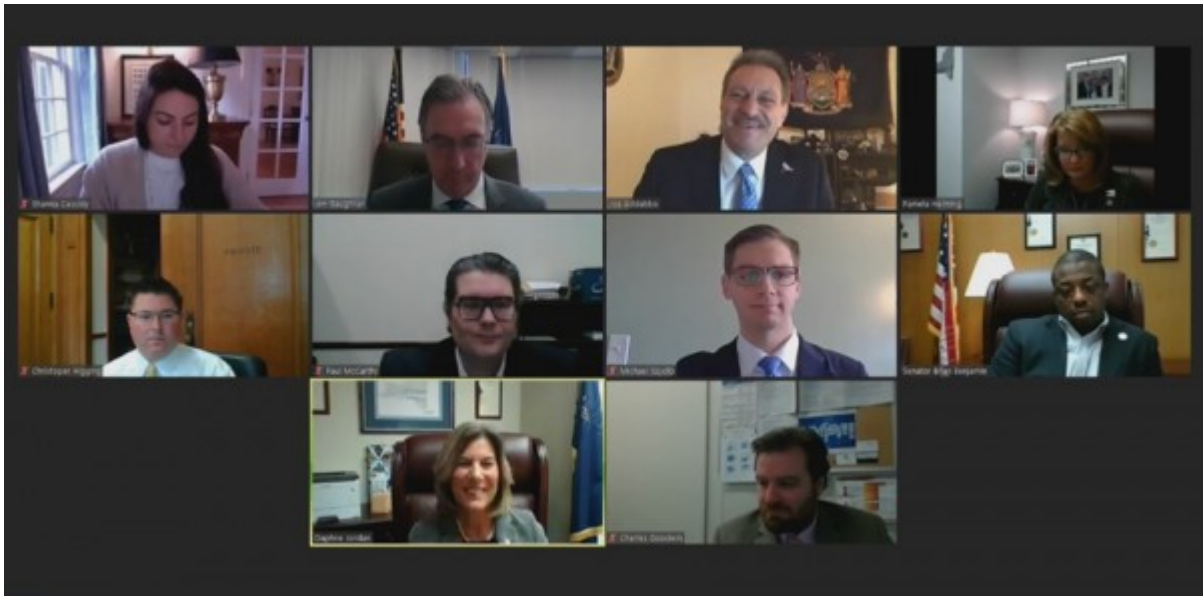
**“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, **what are you doing for others?**”**

*– Martin Luther King Jr.*

***Celebrating the Life and Legacy  
of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.***

“The time is always right to do what’s right.” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke those powerful words nearly 60 years ago. As we celebrated his life and honored his commitment to equality, it’s important to not only remember those words, but to put them into action and sow good deeds. By doing so, we can ensure our communities, state and nation uphold the ideals and values we share.

**Taking part in the first Senate Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee meeting for 2021**



Tuesday morning was our first meeting for 2021 of the Senate's Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee, where I'm honored to continue serving as the Ranking Republican Member.

This is an important committee that covers everything from buying a lottery ticket, to going to horseraces, playing slots at a racino, table games at a casino, even a bell jar game or bingo at your local church, fire station or VFW.

Racing, gaming, and wagering provides thousands upon thousands of jobs in New York State and brings in hundreds of millions of dollars, providing our state with revenue and funding for education. It also promotes tourism and provides business to hotels, restaurants, and other shops located near racetracks and casinos. This revenue is needed more than ever as New York State tries to climb out of the economic ditch it finds itself in, both pre-COVID and now much more since COVID.

I'm excited to know that this year can finally make mobile sports betting a reality in New York State, potentially generating a minimum of \$500 million in much-needed revenue. I'm looking forward to continuing to serve as the Ranking Senate Republican on this important committee. Let's get to work!

## **Inauguration Day**

INAUGURATION DAY - 2021

**Just as I have prayed for every President to succeed in his duties for our nation and its people, I pray that President Biden does well for all Americans because I want America to succeed.**

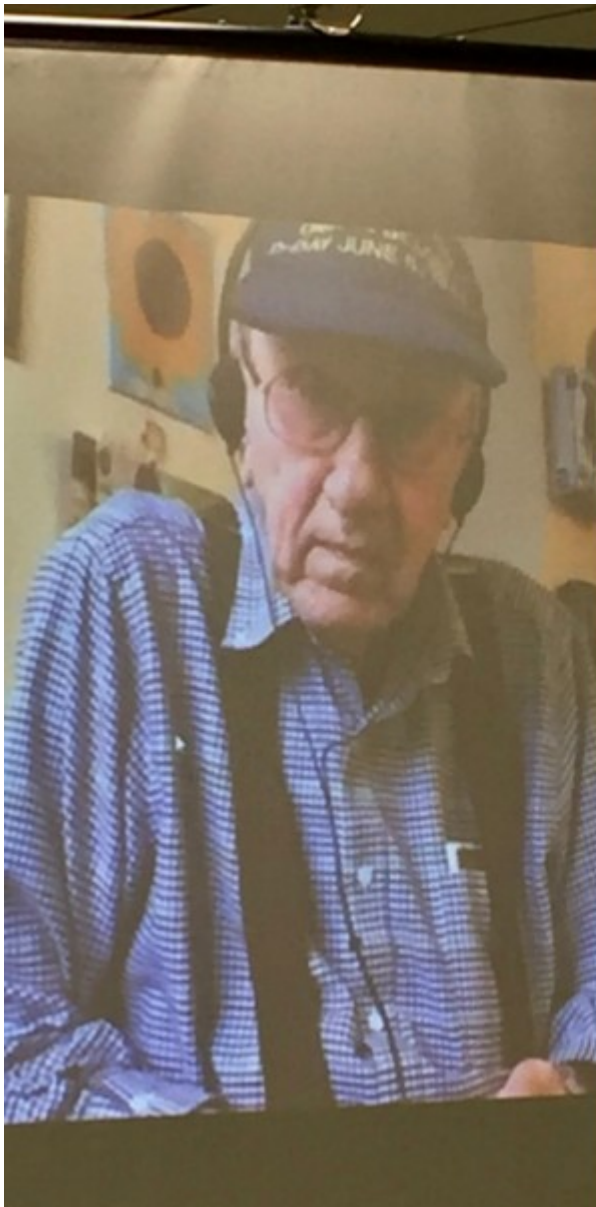
- Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District



Wednesday was Inauguration Day, demonstrating that the peaceful transition of power is an enduring hallmark of our American democracy, as it rightfully should, and must, forever remain. While I am hopeful that the new administration will be helpful, our state must take the necessary steps to finally recognize and correct years of irresponsible spending that's led to our current fiscal challenges.

I am thankful for the dedicated efforts of the men and women of our National Guard and law enforcement who have secured and protected our state capital, as well as our nation's capital.

**Honoring U.S. Army veteran Harold Williams**



It was truly an honor presenting Tec-5 Harold Williams a NYS Senate proclamation and the Liberty Medal Thursday morning! The Liberty Medal is considered the highest honor a New York State resident can receive bestowed by the Senate. The Liberty Medal recognizes individuals who have performed exceptional heroic or humanitarian acts on behalf of other NY residents.

I was happy to stand with my colleagues in public service: Assemblyman Jake Ashby, Ichabod Crane School Superintendent Suzanne Guntlow, Valatie Mayor Diane Argyle, and Albany County Executive Daniel McCoy. Also, a big thanks to Tom Mullins with the Rev. Francis Kelley Society, who worked hard in organizing the event.

We gathered to honor Tec-5 Harold Williams, United States Army, 62nd Armored Field Artillery Battalion, North African and European Theatre of Operations during World War II. Tec-5 Williams is 97 years young (98 this Saturday!) and one of 15 military veterans from our Capital District who survived the D-Day Invasion at Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944. Harold

Williams is truly a representative of the “Greatest Generation,” a tested and true American patriot who defended freedom and helped defeat tyranny.

In addition to the Senate Proclamation and Liberty Medal, a diploma was issued for Mr. Williams through Operation Recognition, which recognizes the devotion and sacrifice of all our veterans who left school early by presenting them with a high school diploma.

America owes Harold Williams our deep and abiding respect and appreciation for his faithful, courageous service. It is OUR honor to honor HIM.

You can watch Channel 13’s coverage of this special event honoring Harold Williams here: <https://wnyt.com/columbia-county-ny-news/97-year-old-valatie-wwii-vet-harold-williams-receives-high-school-diploma/5985799/>.

### **New York State Cold War Certificate**

I have a deep and abiding respect for the men and women of America’s armed forces who have courageously served our country with patriotism and pride. If you know of a veteran who meets the following criteria concerning the New York State Cold War Certificate (details below), email me at [jordan@nysenate.gov](mailto:jordan@nysenate.gov).

#### **To whom awarded:**

The Cold War Certificate may be awarded to any current New York State citizen or a person who was a New York State citizen while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States during the Cold War period, 2 September 1945 to 26 December 1991, whose entire service was honorable.

#### **Standards:**

This certificate may be awarded only to those persons whose discharge certificate indicates service under the conditions of "honorable" (Honorable Discharge) or "under honorable conditions" (General Discharge under Honorable Conditions).

This certificate may be awarded posthumously to a designated survivor of the deceased. Not more than one certificate shall be awarded to any one person. This is a one-time issue.

For more information about this program, please visit the [Division of Military and Naval Affairs website](#).

## Celebrating YOUR Milestone Moments



Readers of my Weekly Wrap know that I always take great pride in recognizing, celebrating, and attending grand openings, ribbon-cuttings, and other special events across my 43rd Senate District. I want to help celebrate YOUR “Milestone Moments,” special events such as birthdays, anniversaries, academic honors, achievements, retirements, awards, and other achievements and recognitions. If you have or know of a Milestone Moment you’d like me to recognize and help share, please contact Deborah Curto, my Community Liaison, at [curto@nysenate.gov](mailto:curto@nysenate.gov) or (518) 371-2751. Thank you!

**My monthly column in the Saratogian & Troy Record: Time to reset NY**

# Reader's View: Time to reset New York

By Senator Daphne Jordan Jan 16, 2021 Comments



State Sen. Daphne Jordan, R-Halfmoon, speaks during the 2020 session.

The Saratogian and Troy Record published my recent monthly column focused on our new Senate Republican “Reset New York State” plan designed to help overcome the enormous public health and economic challenges of COVID-19 and help chart a better quality of life for all New Yorkers. You can read my column in the Saratogian and Troy Record at the following links (please note you will need to have a subscription to read the columns online at the websites):

My monthly column in the Saratogian:

[https://www.saratogian.com/news/local-news/readers-view-time-to-reset-new-york-state/article\\_8586c30e-ea45-5f8e-ade3-46e5a557940e.html](https://www.saratogian.com/news/local-news/readers-view-time-to-reset-new-york-state/article_8586c30e-ea45-5f8e-ade3-46e5a557940e.html).

My monthly column in the Troy Record:

[https://www.troyrecord.com/news/local-news/readers-view-time-to-reset-new-york-state/article\\_8b7af702-574d-11eb-9b11-0796c41d3233.html](https://www.troyrecord.com/news/local-news/readers-view-time-to-reset-new-york-state/article_8b7af702-574d-11eb-9b11-0796c41d3233.html).

**Albany Office:**

508 Legislative Office Bldg  
Albany, NY 12247  
518-455-2381

**District Office:**

1580 Columbia Tpke, Bldg 2 Ste 1  
Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033  
518-371-2751



## THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE