



NEW YORK
STATE SENATE

New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

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New York Senate

MOVING NEW YORK FORWARD

THE 2011 SESSION

REAL REFORMS, REAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, REAL PROGRESS



LEE M. ZELDIN
STATE SENATOR
3rd DISTRICT



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LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

✓
DONE

ENACTING AN HISTORIC PROPERTY TAX CAP TO MAKE
NEW YORK MORE AFFORDABLE FOR MIDDLE CLASS
FAMILIES AND SENIORS

✓
DONE

PASSING A BUDGET THAT CUTS SPENDING, AVOIDS
TAX INCREASES AND HELPS CREATE JOBS

✓
DONE

PASSING MY LEGISLATION IN THE SENATE TO
REPEAL THE MTA PAYROLL TAX

✓
DONE

PASSING AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP OF MANDATE
RELIEF TO EASE THE BURDEN ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHILE
CREATING A MANDATE RELIEF COUNCIL TO CONTINUE
THIS IMPORTANT WORK IN THE FUTURE



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK

Dear Friend:

I have some great news! The State Legislature gave final approval to enact a property tax cap, which included an important mandate relief initiative. This is an important next step to control our property tax costs. I have said over and over again that we need to find a more cost effective way to deliver a quality education for our school children.

Being elected as your new State Senator is not something I take lightly. It is a responsibility that I take very seriously each and every day, whether I am in Albany or in the district.

This year was a challenging year for anyone being in elected office. With a weak economy, we had to find new ways to make government leaner, and do more with less. I was elected to office with a promise to cut taxes, cut spending and promote job growth.

I am proud to say that I have been fulfilling my pledges. Here are some highlights from my first legislative session in Albany:

A Responsible On-Time Budget:

- The newly enacted on-time budget closes a \$10 Billion deficit without raising taxes or fees;
- It restores fiscal integrity by reducing state spending for the first time in 15 years; and
- It will help create new jobs by allowing burdensome taxes on small business to expire.

Co-Sponsored A Strong Property Tax Cap With Mandate Relief:

- The firm 2% tax cap I voted for will begin to ease the burden of out-of-control tax increases;
- It will help to ensure more prudent and responsible budgeting at the local government and school district level;
- It will allow us to continue protecting the quality of our children's education, while also controlling property taxes; and
- It includes responsible Mandate Relief to assist local government and school districts to live within the cap. Additionally, I will continue to advocate for more mandate relief going forward.

Introduced Legislation to Repeal The MTA Payroll Tax

- Working with my colleagues, I spearheaded efforts to repeal the MTA Payroll Tax. I spent months studying, listening and learning about the MTA and its financial situation to develop a great proposal for repeal;
- My bill (S.5596-A/A.8193-A) **passed** the New York State Senate on June 15, 2011, with a bi-partisan vote, 40-22. The bill was introduced in the Assembly by Assemblyman George Latimer (D-Rye), however the Assembly Democratic Majority has yet to allow a vote on it; and
- I will continue to lead this fight until we have full repeal of this job-killing tax.

Introduced Legislation to Repeal The Saltwater Fishing License and Fee:

- I secured a two-year moratorium on the saltwater fishing license fee in the 2011-2012 State Budget;
- It also refunds the \$150 lifetime fee with no impact to the conservation fund; and
- Ensures that New York will be in compliance with the Federal Saltwater Fishing Program and, as a result, Long Islanders will not have to purchase a separate Federal license.

Introduced the Specialist Thomas J. Wilwerth Military Dignity Act to Limit Protests at Military Funerals

- It creates a permit process for demonstrations at veteran and veteran family member funerals;
- The bill triples the buffer zone distance for protests around a religious service, funeral, burial or memorial service from 100 feet to 300 feet;
- It strikes the perfect balance between a person's right to free speech and the need to protect gold star families mourning the loss of their military hero and loved one; and
- My legislation **passed** the Senate and Assembly and now awaits Governor Cuomo's signature into law.

While these initiatives were long overdue, there is much more work that needs to get done. I will be sure to keep you posted as I continue to do my best to represent you.

Sincerely,

Lee M. Zeldin

New York State Senator, 3rd Senate District

“ WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT DEAL, BUT THERE IS STILL MORE WORK TO BE DONE AND EVEN MORE PROGRESS TO BE MADE. I WILL BE SURE TO KEEP YOU POSTED AS I CONTINUE FIGHTING ON BEHALF OF OUR COMMUNITY. ”

-- LEE ZELDIN