



SENATOR JIM ALESI

Community Update: Week Ending 6/04/10



SENATOR ALESI APPOINTED TO THE NEW YORK STATE SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

On Wednesday, I was confirmed by the State Senate as a member of the New York State Small Business Advisory Board. My appointment to the Board, not only was unanimous, but also it was unprecedented – no sitting member of the legislature has served on the State Small Business Advisory Board.

I am proud – and honored – for the opportunity to serve the businesses, entrepreneurs, employees and residents of New York State in a new, exciting role as a member of the State Small Business Advisory Board. As a former small business owner myself, I know first-hand, the hard work and daily rigors of owning and operating a small business. I thank my colleagues in the Senate for their confidence and affirmation, and I look forward to partnering with other members of the Board to create a more business-friendly environment in New York State. Most importantly, I believe that my appointment to the Board bodes well for the business community in Upstate New York and the Greater Rochester region.

The primary responsibilities of the State Small Business Advisory Board are the identification of resources that will facilitate the growth of small businesses in New York, and the elimination of obstacles that impede growth, through the recommendation of changes to policies or regulations. Moreover, the State Small Business Advisory Board serves as a catalyst for creating and maintaining a greater awareness of the issues important to the sustainability of small businesses across our state, and to the livelihoods of owners and employees.

EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE LEGISLATION PASSED

On Friday, May 28, 2010, the New York State Senate passed Senate bill 7909, also known as Governor's Program Bill #249. I was pleased to support this legislation which will provide many public employees across New York State an opportunity to take advantage of a temporary early retirement incentive program. Members of the New York State and Local Retirement System, New York State Teacher Retirement System, New York City Teachers Retirement System, New York City Employee Retirement System, and New York City Board of Education Retirement System will be allowed to participate. For specific questions regarding the temporary early retirement incentive or to determine your individual eligibility to participate, I encourage you to contact your human resources representative, or your union representative. They are best able to assist with your individual situation.

COL. JOHN PERRONE INDUCTED TO NEW YORK STATE VETERANS HALL OF FAME



On June 1st, John J. Perrone was inducted into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame. I had the honor and privilege of seeing Mr. Perrone as well as other members of the Armed Services inducted into this prestigious group. Colonel John Perrone has 35 years of combined service in the reserves and active duty. During the Salt Lake City Olympics he was asked to return to active duty to serve as the anti-terrorism chief at a time when the world was welcoming people from countries all over the world. Later, Colonel Perrone was asked to use his expertise as commander of joint operations at Guantanamo after 9/11 where he oversaw 1,200 men and women in uniform and 600 detainees.

The New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame was established to honor distinguished veterans in the state who are well-known in both military and civilian life. New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame inductees are members of the United States Armed Forces which include Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps. Their commendable service to our nation warrants special recognition provided only by a Hall of Fame. We, as beneficiaries of those who risk their lives daily, cherish the freedoms and security these individuals make possible for us. I am proud to recognize John J. Perrone as a 2010 Veterans Hall of Fame inductee.