**For Immediate Release**

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**Senator Parker says no Kosher Law cuts**

(Albany, NY) Friday Senator Kevin Parker (D-21), was incensed to hear Governor Patterson’s plan to planning to cut 95% of The Kosher Law Enforcement (KLE) in the upcoming budget.

“Cutting the KLE’s budget will have a detrimental effect on the approximately 1.6 million kosher consumers living in New York State” said Senator Parker. New Yorkers spend approximately $40 billion on kosher certified products. Making kosher law enforcement one of New York’s largest industry.

After the State of Israel, New York is the largest producer and consumer of Kosher products, and the existence of a strong Kosher Law Enforcement Division (KLE) is key to the strength of this important industry. It is imperative that we continue to provide the residents of New York State, and our Kosher industry’s customers in other states, with the critically important initiatives that this department provides. New York’s immense share of the kosher industry is bolstered by its effective and respected Kosher Law Enforcement Department

‘The Kosher Law Enforcement industry provides thousands of jobs for New Yorkers. I respectfully urge Governor Patterson to reconsider his position.”

For more information on Senator Parker, please visit his webpage on <http://www.nysenate.gov/senator/kevin-s-parker>

**About Senator Parker**

Senator Parker represents Brooklyn’s 21st Senate District, which encompasses Flatbush, East Flatbush, Kensington, Ditmas Park, Midwood and Borough Park, Senator Kevin Parker has been an outspoken advocate for the 311,000 constituents he serves. Since his election into the Senate in 2002, Senator Parker has remained committed to fighting for equitable rights for all, ensuring that his diverse district obtains necessary resources to help grow and sustain small businesses, higher education, and highlighting HIV/AIDS awareness.

Senator Parker is the Majority Whip & serves on several Senate committees, including Codes; Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business; Finance, and the New American Task Force. Having solid roots in Central Brooklyn, and having lived and gone to junior and high schools in his district, Sen. Parker’s commitment to the lives of his neighbors and constituents is his primary objective. Not only does Sen. Parker have the distinction of being the youngest African American elected into the state senate but he has also been recognized for his commitment to public service with the Legislative Leadership award.

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