

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



**TONY AVELLA**  
**SENATOR, 11TH DISTRICT**

ASSISTANT CONFERENCE LEADER  
FOR POLICY & ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE

**CHAIR**

CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
TASK FORCE ON THE  
DELIVERY OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN NYC

**VICE-CHAIR**

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

**COMMITTEES**

BANKS  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS & TOURISM,  
PARKS & RECREATION  
EDUCATION  
ELECTIONS  
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INSURANCE  
JUDICIARY  
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**SHELTER REFORM AND HOMELESSNESS RECOMMENDATIONS**

- INCREASE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
  - INVEST \$2 BILLION OVER 5 YEARS  
(*Mayor de Blasio's Proposal is \$2.6 billion over 15 years*)
- REDUCE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAXES
  - ENSURE SAVINGS PASS ON TO TENANTS
  - INCREASE FUNDING AND EXPAND ELIGIBILITY LIMITS FOR SENIOR CITIZEN RENT INCREASE EXEMPTION (SCRIE) AND DISABILITY RENT INCREASE EXEMPTION (DRIE) PROGRAMS
- ELIMINATE VACANCY DECONTROL
- SHELTER REFORM
  - CLEANER
  - SAFER
  - LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER AT EVERY SITE
- RECALCULATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING ELIGIBILITY
  - AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) BY ZIP CODE
- INCREASE FUNDING FOR STATE SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM (SSP) FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED WHICH HAS SEEN MINIMAL INCREASES SINCE 1975
  - INCLUDE ANNUAL COLA INCREASE
  - CURRENT BENEFIT IS ONLY \$80 PER MONTH FOR THOSE LIVING ALONE AND \$20 IF LIVING WITH ANOTHER PERSON
- INCREASE NEW YORK STATE SHELTER ALLOWANCE WHICH HAS NOT BEEN INCREASED SINCE 2003



- **INCREASE FUNDS AND LONGEVITY FOR RENTAL ASSISTANCE AND EVICTION PREVENTION PROGRAMS INCLUDING**
  - **LIVING IN COMMUNITIES (LINC) RENTAL SUBSIDIES TO MOVE PEOPLE OUT OF SHELTER**
  - **FAMILY EVICTION PREVENTION SUPPLEMENTS (FEPS)**
    - **BOTH STATE FEPS AND THE PILOT CITY FEPS PROGRAMS**
  - **SINGLE ADULT AND ADULT FAMILIES EVICTION PREVENTION SUPPLEMENTS (SEPS)**
  
- **REFORM LIVING IN COMMUNITIES (LINC) PROGRAM**
  - **STREAMLINE LINC PROGRAM TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING AND EFFICIENCY**
  - **MAKE PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO STREET HOMELESS AS WELL AS THOSE IN SHELTER**
  
- **INCREASE FUNDS TO EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM**
  
- **END DISINCENTIVES TO EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT LOW WAGE EARNERS BY REFORMING EARNED INCOME DISREGARD (EID) CALCULATIONS**
  - **EXPAND EID TO ALL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS AND APPLICANTS**
    - **CURRENTLY ONLY FAMILIES WITH MINOR CHILDREN ALREADY ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ARE ELIGIBLE AND APPLICANTS NOT ELIGIBLE**
  - **INCREASE INITIAL EID FROM \$90/MONTH TO \$250/MONTH**
  
- **ENSURE PRIORITY STATUS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS AND VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) WAITING LISTS**
  
- **INCREASE SHELTER CAPACITY FOR HOMELESS YOUTH**
  - **ENSURE THAT ALL HOUSING SUBSIDIES ARE AVAILABLE TO HOMELESS YOUTH WHO ARE IN DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (DYCD) SHELTERS AND AT DROP IN CENTERS**
  
- **REDUCE ABSENTEEISM AMONG HOMELESS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS**
  - **TRACK ABSENCES AND INFORM PARENTS**
  - **ASSIST FAMILIES WITH HEALTH ISSUES THAT MAY LEAD TO ABSENCES**
  - **REQUIRE PREVENTION ASSISTANCE AND TEMPORARY HOUSING (PATH) CENTERS TO WORK WITH FAMILIES ON HELPING HOMELESS CHILDREN STAY IN SCHOOL**