

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER



Rochester Teachers Association/VoteCope - 30 North Union Street - Rochester, New York 14607 September 2024

Issue 9

NYSUT ENDORSEMENTS VOTE WITH YOUR UNION AND UNLEASH THE VOICES OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

TUESDAY NOV 5, 2024 - NEW YORK STATE GENERAL ELECTION



JOE MORELLE — UNITED STATES CONGRESS

AS A HOUSE MEMBER OF BOTH THE LABOR AND EDUCATION COMMITTEES, **IOE MORELLE** DISTRICT 25, HAS AN ESSENTIAL VOICE IN FEDERAL EDUCATION POLICY. HE VOTED TO PASS THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN, DELIVERING \$197 MILLION IN FUNDING, OVER THREE YEARS, FOR THE RCSD AND \$8.9 BILLION FOR NEW YORK ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF. REPRESENTATIVE MORELLE HAS COSPONSORED EIGHT BILLS, ADVOCATING FOR IMPROVED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SCHOOLS, PROMOTING SAFE SCHOOLS, AND PROMOTING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION. HE HAS A NEAR PERFECT SCORE FROM THE AFL-CIO.

NY STATE SENATE DISTRICT 55 — SAMRA BROUK

STATE SENATOR SAMRA BROUK HAS CONSISTENTLY HAD THE RCSD IN MIND WITH HER INITIATIVES IN MENTAL HEALTH. AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STATE COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH SHE HAS BEEN A PROMINENT VOICE FOR ENHANCED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE SCHOOLS. THIS HAS BEEN A CONSISTENT REQUEST FROM THE RTA, AND SENATOR BROUK HAS BECOME OUR BEST ADVOCATE IN THIS AREA. SAMRA ALSO VOTED FOR THE FOUNDATION AID WHICH ADDRESSED OUR CHRONIC UNDERFUNDING.





IEREMY COONEY — NY STATE SENATE DISTRICT 56

SENATOR JEREMY COONEY HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN ENDING APPR, GETTING SCHOOL MODERNIZATION FUNDING, AND PROMOTING UPSTATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

NY STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 136 — SARAH CLARK

SARAH CLARK WAS ONE OF THE SPONSORS OF THE BILL ESTABLISHING FULL FOUNDATION AID FOR THE 21-22 SCHOOL YEAR. IN ADDITION, SHE HAS SPONSORED MANY BILLS ENHANCING ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE, ACCELERATING PAYMENTS TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS, AND SUPPORTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN THROUGH SCORES OF OTHER BILLS. SHE IS PARTICULARLY PROUD OF SPONSORING THE STUDENT LIFELINE ACT, A YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION INITIATIVE.





DEMOND MEEKS — NY STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 137

DEMOND MEEKS, A PROUD RCSD GRADUATE OF SCHOOL 3 AND MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTS THE 137TH NYS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT. HE IS AN ADVOCATE FOR BOTH HIS COMMUNITY AND ITS SCHOOLS. PRIOR TO HIS ELECTION HE FOUGHT AS AN ORGANIZER FOR THE FOUNDATION AID UNDERFUNDED NYS SCHOOLS LONG DESERVED. HE CONTINUES TO FIGHT FOR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, AND HAS A PERFECT AFL-CIO SCORE.

NY STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 138 — HARRY BRONSON

HARRY BRONSON WAS A SUPPORTER OF RTA AND NYSUT BEFORE THE OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR DELEGATION WERE EVEN ELECTED. HE SUPPORTED FULL FUNDING FOR THE FOUNDATION AID MONEY SO IMPORTANT IN MAINTAINING ADEQUATE STAFF IN OUR SCHOOLS.



EARLY VOTING AVAILABLE SATURDAY OCT 26, 2024 - SUN NOV 3, 2024 POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:00A.M. UNTIL 9P.M.

Yes on Prop 1 (a woman's right to choose)

When you vote this year, turn your ballot over to find a proposed amendment to the New York State Constitution which would make it impossible for the State to eliminate or alter a woman's right to an abortion without submitting that change to the people for a vote.

Note:

- 1. Some have called this the Equal Rights Amendment because it also protects the rights of groups in addition to pregnant women.
- 2. If this proposal is defeated, the right to an abortion will still exist in New York State but that right could be eliminated by a vote of the legislature and signature of the governor.
- 3. You know that this proposal is about abortion rights because pro-life groups are spending money telling people to vote no.

Text of Proposal Number One, An Amendment to New York State Constitution (additions are bold, underlined; deletions are in parentheses)

Section 11 of article 1 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

§ 11. <u>a</u>. No person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof. No person shall, because of race, color, <u>ethnicity</u>, <u>national origin</u>, <u>age</u>, <u>disability</u>, <u>creed [or]</u>, <u>religion</u>, <u>or sex</u>, <u>including sexual orientation</u>, <u>gender identity</u>, <u>gender expression</u>, <u>pregnancy</u>, <u>pregnancy outcomes</u>, <u>and reproductive healthcare and autonomy</u>, be subjected to any discrimination in [his or her] <u>their</u> civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation, or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision of the state, <u>pursuant to law</u>.

b. Nothing in this section shall invalidate or prevent the adoption of any law, regulation, program, or practice that is designed to prevent or dismantle discrimination on the basis of a characteristic listed in this section, nor shall any characteristic listed in this section be interpreted to interfere with, limit, or deny the civil rights of any person based upon any other characteristic identified in this section.

NYSUT ENDORSES THE STATE'S EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT, THE ONLY BALLOT PROPOSAL.

NYSUT AND AFL-CIO ENDORSEMENTS FOR AREA DISTRICTS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF ROCHESTER

State Senate District 54: Pam Helming (R)

Assembly Districts:

130 Brian Manktelow (R)

132 Philip Palmesano (R)

133 Andrea Bailey (R)

134 Josh Jensen (R)

135 Jennifer Lunsford (D)