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Look inside to see how

Assemblyman Jones
is supporting North
Country families



"From improving broadband services to bolstering our local economy, I'm always searching for new ways to push the North Country forward. This legislative year was full of wins, and I look forward to continuing our progress in the next legislative session."

- Assemblyman Billy Jones

# Assemblyman BILLY JONES

is securing big victories for the North Country

#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Throughout the year Assemblyman Billy Jones held a variety of community events, including:

- Hosting his annual 2021 Women of Distinction Awards ceremony to recognize Constance
   A. Wille (Trailblazer); Tammy Reynolds (Health Care); Michele Friedman (Education);
   Diana Wardell (Volunteerism); Mary Theresa Pearl (Military); Joelle Lamica (Community and Civic Affairs); and Amy Kretser (Nonprofit Leadership) for their dedication to inspiring and influencing others to excel
- Running a community blood drive to help increase local blood inventory
- Encouraging young people to read and learn during the summer months through his annual Summer Reading Challenge
- Collecting donations for his toy drive to bring holiday joy and relief to families in need.

### **REOPENING THE U.S. – CANADIAN BORDER**

For months, Jones called for the federal government to reopen the United States-Canadian border. Reopening the border would allow families that were separated to be reunited and increase tourism and customers for local businesses. Now, Jones is calling for the vaccine requirements to apply to both sides of the border, as the Canadian government is expected to lift the COVID-19 testing requirements for Canadians who spend less than 72 hours in the United States.



# ASSEMBLYMAN JONES HELPED PASS A STATE BUDGET THAT INCLUDED:

- \$800 million for the Small Business Recovery Grant Program
- \$72.4 million for the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)
- \$1 million for the Public Service Commission (PSC) to study the availability, cost and reliability of high-speed broadband statewide and publish an internet access map
- \$300,000 for the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program
- \$275,000 for the North Country Chamber of Commerce
- \$200,000 for the Older Adults Technology Services (OATS)
- \$180,000 for Paul Smith College's Visitor Interpretive Center
- \$100,000 for the North Country Veterans Association (NCVA)

#### **LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

## Assemblyman Jones helped pass crucial legislation that:

- Continued to fight for the expansion of broadband and cell service by streamlining the broadband expansion process (A.2396-A) and advocating for the release of the Upstate Cellular Task Force Report
- Fought for the safety of corrections officers and civilian employees by ending the dangerous practice of double bunking in medium security correctional facilities (Ch. 570 of 2021)
- Guaranteed that funds received as part of the opioid manufacturing settlements are used for substance use disorder prevention, along with treatment and recovery programs (Ch. 190 of 2021)
- Cut government red tape and bureaucracy by easing import and permit requirements for dairy farmers (Ch. 88 of 2021) and streamlining the decisions of the State Liquor Authority (Ch. 341 of 2021)
- Passed Nourish NY that ensures New Yorkers in need have access to healthy local food by creating partnerships between foodbanks and farmers across the state. (Ch. 631 of 2021)

# Assemblyman Jones' Constituent Services

Cases Closed	330
Letters of Support	58
Citations	29
Incoming Calls	2754
Outgoing Calls	1048
Legislative Concerns Filed	3951

Questions? Concerns? My office is here to help:

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