

## Report to the Community

Dear Neighbor,

As I walked across our district last fall, I listened to your concerns that Albany did not work for you, that government had become too expensive, and that taxes are too high. You said that it was time to embrace common-sense solutions to the problems facing the State and to get us moving in the right direction again. I am pleased to issue this report outlining some of the bills that directly affect your lives here in the 120th District.

With the help of Governor Cuomo's leadership and a collaborative bipartisan Senate and Assembly, the 2011 legislative session focused on the priorities of New York State taxpayers. We enacted an ontime budget that consolidated State agencies, restored EPIC premium assistance for lower-income

seniors, and closed a \$10 billion deficit without raising taxes. We established a property tax cap on local governments and school districts while introducing mandate relief to reduce the costs of local governments on property taxpayers. After years of advocacy, we enacted comprehensive ethics reform to make government officials more accountable.

As chair of the New York State Assembly's Local Government Standing Committee, I am leading the fight for common-sense change in our government. I look forward to our ongoing conversations so that I can continue to bring your concerns to Albany.

lognarell

Sincerely.

Bill Magnarelli

Member of Assembly



Assemblyman Magnarelli and Governor Andrew Cuomo greet residents during his recent visit to Upstate New York to sign the property tax cap legislation.

### **PROGRES**

# Here's a list of bills passed by both Legislative Houses regarding:

## **Common Sense/Good Government Policies:**

 2011-12 State budget passes on time and closes the state's \$10 billion deficit, restores vital programs and focuses on job creation. (A.4000-E through A.4012-C)



Assemblyman Magnarelli, chair of the New York State Assembly's Standing Committee on Local Governments, holds a joint budget conference meeting in Albany on March 21, 2011.



Assemblyman Magnarelli greets the Maroney family from Lakeland during Governor Andrew Cuomo's visit to sign the property tax cap legislation.

- Caps property taxes and puts taxpayers first while delivering \$126 million in mandate relief for local governments and school districts. (A. 8518)
- Enacts historic ethics reform legislation that will require more extensive financial disclosure and establish serious penalties for those who violate the law. (A.8307)
- Allow local taxing authorities the ability to accept property tax flexibility payments enabling homeowners to make partial installment payments. (A.6719)

#### **Growing Businesses and Creating Jobs:**

- Takes bold actions in terms of encouraging new markets for solar energy, enacting a new power plant siting law and providing homeowners and small businesses with access to new energy efficiency opportunities. (A.8510)
- Allows for the creation of local land banks to help revitalize and develop our neighborhoods. Land banks are key economic development tools that have the ability to buy vacant properties and convert them into valuable community

## S REPORT

assets such as new housing, commercial and green-space initiatives. (A.373-A)

- Creates the Syracuse Regional Airport Authority that will help bring in new airlines and reduced air fares. (A.2166-A)
- Protected employees' pensions during the consolidation of Upstate Medical Center and Community General Hospital, helping the merger to take place. (A.4007-C)



Assemblyman Magnarelli congratulates Dr. David Smith, president of Upstate Medical University, about the merger with Community General Hospital, saving approximately 900 local, good-paying health care jobs.

# Health and Safety Legislation:

 Restores EPIC premium assistance in the final 2011-2012 budget bill ensuring lower-income enrollees have access to needed medication. (A.4009-D)  Introduced legislation that created a law establishing an alert system for missing vulnerable adults. Similar to the "Amber Alert" system, a statewide communication system would be activated

when a senior or vulnerable adult is missing. (A.676-B)

Protects military funerals from protestors, allowing localities to require permits for demonstrators, expanding the buffer zone around services and ensuring violators are punished. (A.7697)

continued on next page



Assemblyman Magnarelli speaks with a member of the local Army Battalion at the New York State Fair Exhibit.

- Ensures convicts who committed domestic violence will be added to the **federal background check database** so that they will be prohibited from purchasing firearms. (A.698-D)
- Requires judges in criminal and family court proceedings to inquire as to the possession of a firearm by the defendant or respondent when an **order of protection** is issued. (A.2492-B)
- Establishes head-injury guidelines for schools across the state. Under the bill, school coaches, physical education teachers, nurses and athletic trainers would be required to undergo head-injury training to learn the symptoms of a concussion and to seek medical treatment for an injured student. (A.8194)



Assemblyman Magnarelli visited Miss Armani's first grade class at Solvay Elementary to help instill the importance and fun of reading.

Strengthens current laws on sex offenders by closing a loophole that allows those found

guilty of attempted unlawful surveillance to avoid registration. The legislation also allows law enforcement to notify vulnerable communities about the exact addresses of Level 2 sex offenders. (A.5661)



For more information, please contact my District Office at 315-428-9651.

Assemblyman Magnarelli visited a local community center to hear the concerns of local senior citizens.