"**This November, New Yorkers will be asked to consider three ballot measures**. Here is some helpful information on these important issues."

— Assemblymember **Michael G. DenDekker**

Assemblymember
Michael G.
DenDekker

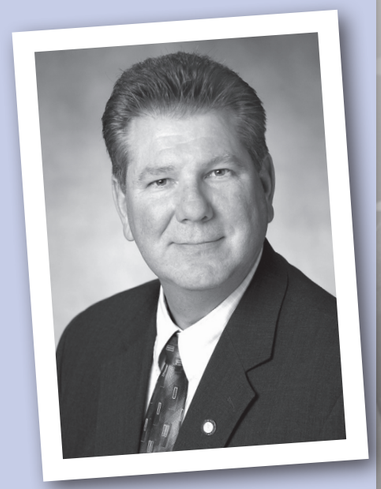
**2014 BALLOT MEASURES**
For more information, call 718-457-0384

Information on New York's

# 2014 BALLOT MEASURES

ASSEMBLYMEMBER

# Michael G. DenDekker

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Dear Neighbor,

**This November, three proposals will be placed upon the ballot for New Yorkers to vote on**. This pamphlet describes the ballot proposals so that you have detailed information ahead of time about what you are being asked to decide. As you consider this information, please remember that the most important thing you can do is participate in the process.

Sincerely,

Michael G. DenDekker
Member of Assembly

# 2014 BALLOT MEASURES

## Creating an Independent Redistricting Commission to draw the boundaries for legislative districts

Currently, congressional and state legislative district lines are drawn by the state legislature every 10 years. The proposed amendment would change the process for drawing new districts by creating an Independent Redistricting Commission with 10 members appointed in a bipartisan manner.

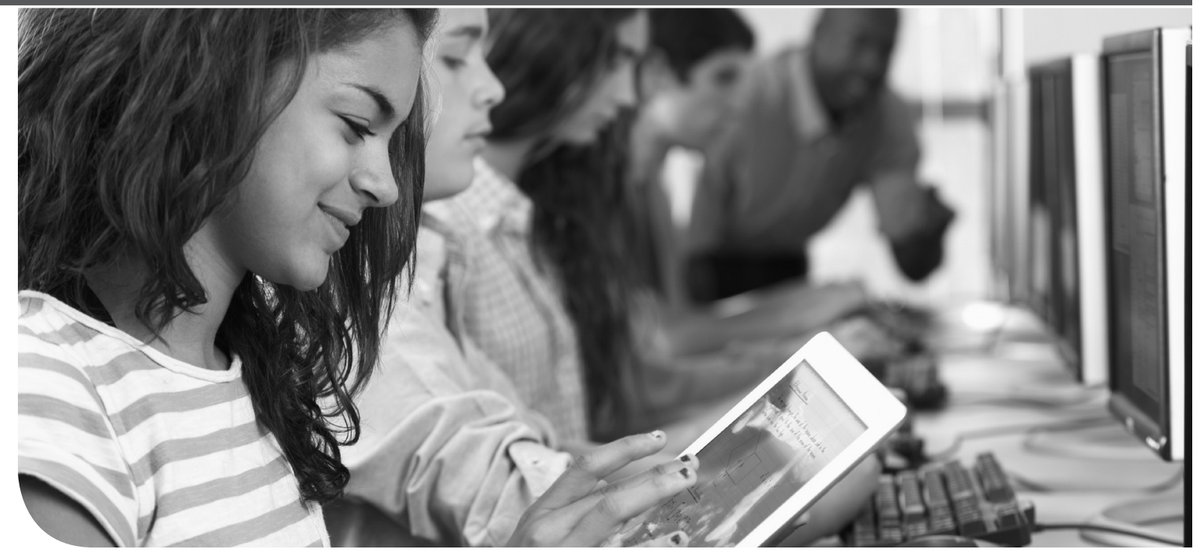
Each member of the commission must be a registered New York voter. Within the past three years, members of the commission could not have served as legislators or members of Congress, been elected to statewide office, worked as lobbyists, chaired a political party or been employed in the executive or legislative branches of state government.

### The process for the proposed Independent Redistricting Commission:

- The commission would hold public hearings and make information available to the public
- At least 7 of 10 members would need to vote to send the redistricting plan to the state Legislature for approval
- The Legislature would vote on the plan submitted by the Independent Redistricting Commission
- If the Legislature rejects the plan, the commission would revise it, and if it is rejected again, the Legislature could amend it within narrow limits

### When drawing new district lines, the proposed commission must:

- Work to guarantee minority voting rights
- Ensure communities of interest are protected
- Ensure candidates are not favored or disfavored
- Include approximately equal numbers of people for each district
- Make an effort to keep boundaries for each district contiguous and compact



## Allowing the state Legislature to go digital

This proposed amendment would eliminate the constitutional requirement that a bill must be printed on paper and placed on legislators' desks before becoming a law.

### The proposed "e-printing" process:

Each year, the New York State Legislature considers thousands of bills. The proposed process would allow for these bills to be "e-printed" and distributed to legislators electronically, rather than in physical paper form. Legislators would receive bills and amendments via their laptops, tablets and computers. The proposal would not affect other constitutional requirements for enacting bills into law.

## Authorizing a $2 billion Smart Schools Bond Act

The proposed amendment would create a $2 billion bond initiative that would provide funding for technology and infrastructure in New York State schools.

### The Smart Schools Bond Act would fund:

- High-speed Internet in schools
- Updated technologies in the classroom
- New classroom space for pre-K programs
- Projects that replace "classroom trailers" with permanent classroom space
- High-tech school safety measures