



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLYMAN FELIX W. ORTIZ
CHAIR, CITIES COMMITTEE
CHAIR, PUERTO RICAN AND HISPANIC TASK FORCE

Legislative Highlights
Week January 13th-17rd, 2014

Ortiz Pushes for Veterans' Business Incentives



Assemblyman Felix W. Ortiz joined Senator Greg Ball and a group of veterans in Albany on Tuesday, January 14th in support of their bill to establish the goal of awarding 5% of state contracts to service disabled veterans who own small businesses. Veterans suffer from a much higher unemployment rate than their civilian counterparts and the 51st district is no exception to this statistic. To learn more about this legislation please call the Assemblyman's Albany office at 518-455-3821.

Assemblyman Felix W. Ortiz Pushes for Education Reform

Assemblyman Ortiz joins the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Caucus at a press conference calling for the support of Full-Day Universal Pre Kindergarten in New York City. Studies show that when children begin their education early on, they have much more success in academia as they grow older. The same day, Ortiz participated in a press conference with fellow legislators and the Chair of the Education Committee to push for education funding in next year's budget. 71% of school districts currently receive less state aid than in previous years. Our schools need an increase of \$1.9 billion in order to close the current gap.

"Education is a key element to ensure that our children become productive members of society, let's work together to ensure they have the resources that they need," said Ortiz



New York State Assembly passes Crucial Legislation

This week, Assemblyman Ortiz and his colleagues in the Assembly passed pieces of legislation that will have a positive impact on New Yorker's lives. Highlights include:

- **A99** – Enacts the comprehensive school bus driver safety training program. This initiative would use a portion of the funds from infractions to create a public education program to educate motorists on the dangers of passing school buses.
- **A296A** – Establishes a diabetes fund for research and education and creates a check-off for taxpayers to donate to said fund.
- **A496** – Prohibits businesses from altering their caller ID with the intent to defraud or harass New Yorkers.
- **A1084A** – Requires that orders of protection be translated into the native language of parties.
- **A864A** – Under the Human Rights Law, this bill prohibits discrimination against religious attire.

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