



ISCUSSION ON FACEBOOK

Dear Neighbor:

It is clear that the face of the heroin epidemic has changed. It's no longer just an urban problem. Heroin is widely available in our schools, colleges and universities; more and more of our families are facing this very real danger.

To tackle this epidemic, the Senate and Assembly hosted several Heroin Task Force and roundtable discussions around the state to bring together parents, educators, health care and law enforcement professionals. The goal was to put the spotlight on the epidemic, have an open and honest conversation, and gather recommendations for legislative action to help safeguard our children and communities.

As a result, both sides of the aisle passed 11 new laws designed to give law enforcement greater ability to combat the problem and help those who need treatment.

I was proud to vote for these laws, which:

- Establish age-appropriate drug abuse prevention programs in schools;
- Increase public awareness of the links between abuse of prescription drugs and heroin use;
- · Increase overdose prevention efforts and provide greater options for recovering addicts; and
- Give law enforcement the tools to investigate and prosecute criminal drug activity.

If you know someone with a heroin addiction or need help talking to your child about drugs, please visit the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse website at www.oasas.ny.gov/pio/needhlp.cfm or call 1-877-8HOPENY. As always, if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff at 518-792-4546.

Working for you,



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