

**MOVING NEW YORK IN  
THE RIGHT DIRECTION**

**A 2012  
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM**

ASSEMBLYMAN

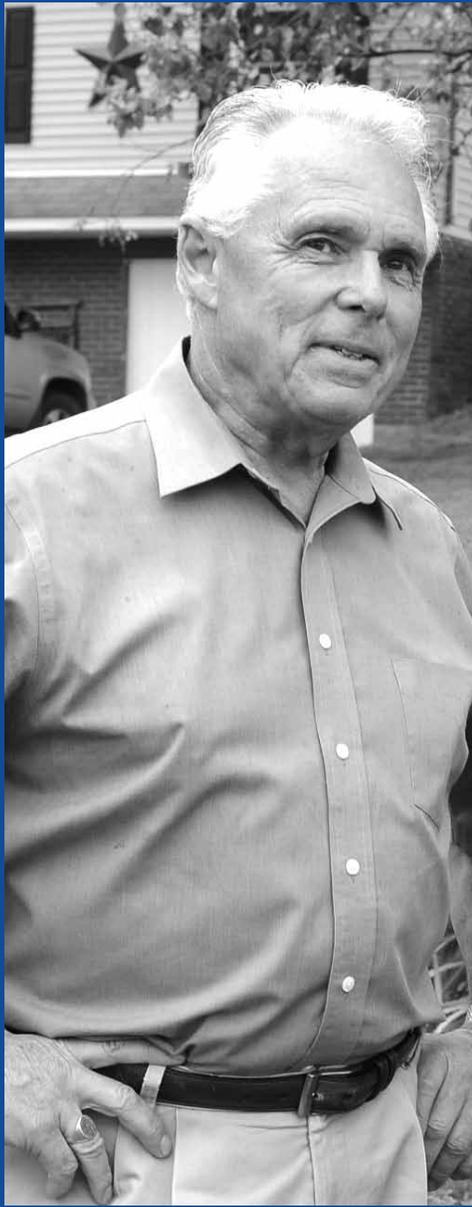
CLIFFORD W.  
**CROUCH**



**“These are things that you, the taxpayer, wanted from your representatives. This year, I am proud to have worked with Governor Andrew Cuomo to help deliver your ideas. With the successes of this year, we have righted the ship, but there is still much work that can be done to improve our job market and help our middle-class families.”**

*Cliff Crouch*

**- Assemblyman  
Cliff Crouch**



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# GOOD NEWS TO REPORT!

## The highlights of the 2012 Legislative Session:

- **Another On-Time State Budget!** The second, on-time, fiscally-responsible budget that closed a \$13.5 billion budget gap, cut spending, and helped businesses and middle-class taxpayers!
- **Budget Reform:** During budget negotiations, conference committees were convened to discuss details of the budget in a transparent manner.
- **Medicaid Mandate Cost Relief:** State will gradually assume the increase in the local share of New York's Medicaid program, which is America's costliest.
- **Pension Reform:** Enacted a Tier VI pension plan for new public employees, allowed participation in an optional defined contribution plan for legislators and non-union employees.
- **Redistricting Reform:** Gave first passage to a proposed State Constitutional Amendment to establish an Independent Redistricting Commission.
- **Cyberbullying Prevention:** Prohibited bullying and cyberbullying in public schools.
- **Education Investment:** Increased community college-based aid funding to \$2,272 per student, increased state aid to school districts by \$805 million, for a total of \$20.3 billion.
- **DNA Databank:** Expanded the State's DNA databank by requiring DNA samples from individuals convicted of any felony or Penal Law misdemeanor.
- **Protecting New Yorkers with Special Needs:** Enacted the Protection of People with Special Needs Act to create uniform safeguards in residential facilities and day programs.