

Our Assemblyman

Robert Smullen

OUR VOICE IN ALBANY
FOR HARDWORKING
UPSTATE NEW YORKERS



PRSR STD.
US Postage
PAID
Albany, NY
Permit No. 75

New York State Assembly • Albany, NY 12248

“To promote rural equity statewide and ensure families, students, teachers, first responders and businesses in Upstate New York are properly supported, they need a strong voice in Albany. I am determined to speak up for our communities in the 118th Assembly District and have the backs of hardworking families who rely on their state representatives to act in their best interest.”

Our Assemblyman

Robert Smullen



ASSEMBLYMAN ROBERT SMULLEN'S **RURAL EQUITY INITIATIVE**

The Rural Equity Initiative, developed by me and my colleagues in the Assembly Minority Conference, includes proposals that focus on:



Economic Development and Resurgence by creating a “Rural Equity Assistance” program to foster economic development in small towns, provide technical assistance, identify grants and other funding sources (A.1913) and incentivize remote workers to live in rural regions of the state (A.1909);



Providing equal access to services and telecommunications infrastructure by increasing Medicaid reimbursements for rural ambulance service (A.1928), allowing municipalities to cooperatively develop plans for internet access in rural communities (A.2378) and establishing the “Rural Mobile Communications Fund,” which would provide grants to expand cellular coverage (A.2024);



Addressing unique rural education needs by allowing schools to focus on investing in education rather than chasing a zero-emission standard for school transportation (A.2005), permitting rural students to enroll in classes and programs offered at schools around the region through the “EmpowerED” Act (A.2009) and expanding parent contracts so schools can contract with parents, teachers and other community members to meet transportation needs (A.2011); and



Preserving the heritage and history of rural New York by creating the “Adopt-a-Rural Cemetery Program” to provide assistance in maintaining and upgrading these important facilities (A.2034) and exempting the use of wood burning for recreation, home heating and cooking from greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements (A.2003).



See Assemblyman Smullen's closing remarks at a press conference in Albany on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025, to promote his Assembly Bill A.2005.

STATE BUDGET GOALS

- ▶ We must direct spending responsibly so funding is not wasted or misused;
- ▶ We must avoid tax increases and fight to lower taxes to alleviate pressure on New York families and businesses; and
- ▶ Overall, we must work to make New York state safer and more affordable so residents remain in state and experience the peace of mind and security they deserve.

For any questions about these or other issues, please contact Assemblyman Smullen at his district office at: 315-866-1632, 5659 State Route 5, Suites 1-3, Herkimer, NY 13350, smullenr@nyassembly.gov



Robert
Smullen
Our Assemblyman