



Senator Lee M. Zeldin
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New York Senate



SENATOR LEE ZELDIN:
FIGHTING
for **SENIORS**



SENATOR LEE ZELDIN: **EPIC FUNDING RESTORED!**

I'm pleased to report that the recently approved State Budget includes restoration of **\$30.6 million** for New York State's **EPIC program**. My Senate colleagues and I fought hard during negotiations to include this funding to help seniors keep their co-pays under control.

Changes made last year to the EPIC program resulted in significant increases in co-pays for many seniors until the Medicare Part D coverage gap, or "doughnut hole" was reached. For our most vulnerable seniors, this change sometimes meant the difference between buying medicine or food.

Starting in January 2013, the funding I helped to secure in the new State Budget will ensure that most seniors will once again have affordable access to the vital prescription drugs they need with only modest co-pays. I will continue to fight for funding and programs that help seniors deal with the high cost of living on Long Island.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L M Zeldin".

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Local Offices for the Aging can be a valuable resource for information on Medicare Part D. They also can offer assistance on other money saving programs, like Home Energy Assistance and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance, which can help with your budget.

New York State and Suffolk County have Offices for the Aging which offer information about programs and services designed to assist senior citizens. You can learn more about these programs and services by calling:

New York State Office for the Aging Senior Citizen Helpline: 1-800-342-9871
Suffolk County Office for the Aging: 631-853-8200



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