



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph A. Griffo

Sen. Griffo asks Public Service Commission to Urge Improved Phone Books

JOSEPH A. GRIFFO December 24, 2009

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GRIFFO ASKS PSC TO URGE IMPROVING PHONE BOOKS FOR VISUALLY-IMPAIRED

Utica - Senator Joseph A. Griffo (R-I-C, Rome) announced today that he has requested that the State Public Services Commission (PSC) encourage telecommunications providers in New York to make and promote phone book listings to serve an aging population and those consumers with visual

impairments.

Senator Griffo first raised the concern in a conversation with PSC Chairman Garry A. Brown, several weeks ago and followed it up with a written request.

“I’m responding on behalf of the constituents who’ve contacted me, asking if there are larger print white page listings in phone directories or if there are services that allow free operator-assistance in finding numbers,” said Senator Griffo. “I can empathize because my own eye concerns make me sensitive to those who rely on trying to find phone numbers in print that’s just too small. I know that more phone providers have services to those with physical limitations, but there needs to be more publicity or attention to these services. I’ve asked Chairman Brown if the State Public Service Commission would encourage them to do more for thousands of New Yorkers who have physical issues in finding phone numbers.”

Senator Griffo also confirmed that he received a reply from Chairman Brown saying that the PSC will be reviewing his request .

[a copy of Senator Griffo’s letter to the Public Service Commission is attached]