



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Ruth Hassell-Thompson

## 2010 End of the Year Memo to Friends and Colleagues

RUTH HASSELL-THOMPSON February 7, 2011

| COMMITTEE: **NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE OF BLACK SENATORS**

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

The 2010 Legislative Session year has come to a close and the New York State Senate Conference of Black Senators had a very productive year. As a Conference, we selected 23 high priority legislative Signature bills that would have significant impacts on our communities of color. Out of the 23 bills, we were able to get 16 of these passed in both houses and signed by the Governor. These Signature bills have provided our communities with some reprieve from this current economic depression. It is my hope that for the 2011 Legislative year that we will continue to put forth Signature Legislative bills that will help our communities.

Listed below is the Signature Bills sponsored by members of the NYS Senate Conference of Black Senators that have been signed into Law for the 2010 Legislative Year.

### **2010 CBS Signature Bill Accomplishments**

**S. 3890 A:** No Fault Divorce *Sponsored by Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 8/13/10 and Chaptered .384*

This bill would allow a judgment of divorce to be granted to either a husband or a wife

without assigning fault to either of the parties. However, a divorce could only be granted after the major ancillary issues have been resolved.

**S. 6993 B** : Breast Cancer Bill *Sponsored by Senator Ruth Hassell- Thompson*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 8/13/10 and Chaptered .354*

To ensure that information relating to the availability and access to reconstructive surgery following breast cancer surgery is provided to all breast cancer surgery patients.

**S. 6888 C**: Emerging Investment Managers *Sponsored by Senator Ruth Hassell- Thompson*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 7/15/10 and Chaptered .171*

To create the NYS MWBE asset management and financial institution strategy in order to allow for the diversification and expansion of MWBE contracting to the retirement, social security, education and insurance law.

**S. 5923**: Biased Related Violence *Sponsored by Senator Kevin Parker*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 7/30/10 and Chaptered .227*

This bill would provide the vehicle necessary for someone to initiate a civil action against a perpetrator of bias-related violence or intimidation.

**S. 4291 B**: Community Reinvestment Act *Sponsored by Senator Kevin Parker*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 10/20/10 and Chaptered .551*

This bill would prohibit the comptroller from establishing an account in a banking institution with a Community Reinvestment Act rating of less than satisfactory.

**S. 6102 A**: Peace Training Bill *Sponsored by Senator Eric Adams*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 9/7/10 and Chaptered .491*

This bill consolidates and streamlines the police officer and peace officer registries, and

upgrades and upgrades and clarifies minimum training requirements for peace officers.

**S. 2956 A:** Police Quota Bill *Sponsored by Senator Eric Adams*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 8/30/10 and Chaptered .460*

Expands the quota penalty provisions to include a ticket, summons or arrest. This act to amend the current labor law, in relation to prohibiting quotas for a ticket, summons or arrest authorized by any general, special or local law

**S. 7945 A:** Stop and Frisk *Sponsored by Senator Eric Adams*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 7/16/10 and Chaptered .176*

To protect the privacy and due-process rights of innocent New Yorkers who are stopped by the police and subsequently released without further legal action.

**S. 7483 A:** Hospital Closure Planning Act *Sponsored by Senator Huntley*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 10/1/10 and Chaptered. 541*

To allow for community input on the impact of a hospital's closing on access to health care in the surrounding community and require the department of health to identify the measures which the department and other parties have taken or will take to ameliorate such impact.

**S. 4057 B :** Child Health Plus and School Meal Coordination Act *Sponsored by Senator Andrea Stewart- Cousins*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 10/1/10 and Chaptered .535*

This bill would require coordination between Child Health Plus, Medicaid and School Meals to ensure that children who are eligible and enrolled for free and reduced-price school meals are also enrolled in Child Health Plus or Medicaid.

**S. 3296 H:** Bisphenol A- Free Children and Babies Act *Sponsored by Senator Antoine Thompson*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 7/30/10 and Chaptered .280*

The bill would prohibit the manufacture, distribution and sale of certain child care products containing bisphenol-A which are intended for use by or upon a child.

**S. 2233 A :** Incarcerated Parent Bill *Sponsored by Senator Velmanette Montgomery*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 6/15/10 and Chaptered. 113*

This legislation would allow a foster care agency to delay the filing of a petition to terminate the parental rights of a parent who is incarcerated or participating in a residential substance abuse treatment program when such agency believes that filing a termination petition is not in the best interests of the child.

**S. 1145 C:** Reduction in Sulfur Emissions *Sponsored by Senator Bill Perkins*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 7/15/10 and Chaptered .203*

The purpose of this legislation is to limit the sulfur content in home heating oil.

**S. 5588 A:** Retirement plan *Sponsored by Senator John Sampson*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 3/30/10 and Chaptered .32*

This bill makes a correction to Ch. 72 '09, by permitting either party to a matrimonial action to continue receiving payments from a retirement plan, where such party is already in pay status at the time when the automatic orders preventing dissipation of funds would otherwise take effect.

**S. 5696 A:** Order of Protections *Sponsored by Senator John Sampson*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 8/13/10 and Chaptered .341*

Provides that orders of protection shall not be denied solely on the basis that the events alleged are not relatively contemporaneous with the date of the application or conclusion

thereof.

**S. 5987 B:** Small Business Mentoring Program *Sponsored by Senator John Sampson*

*Signed by Governor Paterson on 7/15/10 and Chaptered .206*

To authorize the metropolitan transportation authority, and its subsidiaries and affiliates (collectively, the "MTA"), to establish a mentoring program that will provide small businesses with mentoring opportunities by matching them with experienced construction management firm mentors and by providing opportunities to compete for certain designated public work contracts.