



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

David J. Valesky

## Senate Passes Valesky Legislation to Prevent Elder Abuse

DAVID J. VALESKY May 25, 2011

| ISSUE: **AGING, FAMILIES, MENTAL HEALTH, SENIOR CENTERS, VICTIMS**

The State Senate unanimously passed legislation sponsored by Senator David J. Valesky (D-Oneida) aimed at preventing elder abuse through domestic violence.

“As more New Yorkers age, the issue of elder abuse and domestic violence is unfortunately becoming more prevalent,” Senator Valesky said. “By providing preventative educational programs at senior centers, this legislation provides another avenue to help seniors who may be affected.”

The legislation (S.4235) directs the NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence to develop domestic violence prevention programs specifically geared toward seniors that can be utilized at senior centers across the state.

Domestic abuse affects thousands of older New Yorkers each year. A study by the National Center on Elder Abuse found that more than 500,000 persons aged 60+ across the country reported incidents of domestic abuse. However, an estimated 84 percent of incidents go unreported.

To report an incident of adult abuse, call the NYS Office for Children and Families hotline at 1-800-342-3009.