



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

## Ritchie Votes to Help Families WITH Autism

PATTY RITCHIE June 17, 2011

| ISSUE: **HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

### **Treatments Will Be Covered By Insurance**

State Senator Patty Ritchie said a bill (S4005A) she cosponsored that was passed by the Senate today will insure that families with autistic children will have their treatments covered by insurance.

“It’s outrageous that families have been told that their insurance will not cover therapeutic care, including speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy,” Senator Ritchie said. “I am proud that I was able to vote to insure that families will no longer be discriminated against if they have a family member with autism spectrum disorder when they buy or renew health insurance.”

“In my travels across Central and Northern New York, I have talked to many families struggling to insure that their children receive the kind of care they need to reach their full potential,” Senator Ritchie said. “I am proud that I could stand up for them and cast my vote for them in the Senate.”