



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph A. Griffo

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JOSEPH A. GRIFFO October 19, 2011

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For the fifth year straight, State Senator Joseph Griffo (R-IP-C, Rome) was honored as a recipient of the 'Circle of Friends' award from the New York Farm Bureau, the State's leading and most respected agricultural advocacy organization.

"I am humbled to accept this recognition from an organization representing thousands of families in agriculture statewide, including many in the Mohawk Valley and North Country,"

said Senator Griffo. “A strong agricultural sector is a key to our state’s economy and food security, and I will keep advocating in Albany for pro-farming policies and to eliminate burdensome and unnecessary regulations.”

According to the New York Farm Bureau President Dean Norton, “The ‘Circle of Friends’ award is based upon each legislator’s voting record on issues of importance to New York agriculture and other evidence of legislative support, including sponsorship of bills that Farm Bureau has either supported, or opposed, throughout the Legislative Session.”

“There are still strong interests out there who target the New York farmer with legislation, regulation, and taxation; they weaken an institution that’s as old as New York itself,” Griffo added. “I expect next year to be another challenging one for farmers who this year had to face pressures from a shrinking credit market, tropical storm damage and the concerns over hydrofracking.”

Griffo has received the recognition for each year that he’s been in the State Senate. The award is an indication of the individual lawmaker’s support of New York agriculture and the Farm Bureau during the current year.