



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Charles J. Fuschillo Jr.

## Senator Fuschillo Announces Approval of New Anti-Crime Legislation

CHARLES J. FUSCHILLO JR. March 15, 2012

| ISSUE: **CRIME**

### *Legislation Would Expand DNA Databank & Provide Enhanced Crime Fighting Tool for Law Enforcement*

Senator Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr. (R-Merrick) recently voted in favor of legislation to help better enable law enforcement to use DNA to catch criminals.

The legislation (S6733) would expand the State's DNA databank by requiring anyone convicted of a felony or penal law misdemeanor to submit a DNA sample.

"DNA is one of the most powerful tools law enforcement can use to solve crimes. Expanding the database will provide a stronger tool for law enforcement to catch and convict criminals, get them off the streets, and keep people safe," said Senator Fuschillo.

Since its inception, the State's DNA databank has transformed criminal investigations and prosecutions to make them more accurate and effective, in addition to helping exonerate the innocent.

However, up to this point DNA has only been collected from fewer than half of convicted criminals because the previous law did not include certain crimes. This hampered law

enforcement's ability to solve crimes, and enabled some criminals to remain free to commit additional crimes.

The legislation has been passed by the Senate and Assembly and is expected to be signed by Governor Cuomo.