



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Hugh T. Farley

## Senator Farley Announces Senate Bill Targets Prescription Black Market

HUGH T. FARLEY March 13, 2013

| ISSUE: **PRESCRIBED DRUGS OR PRESCRIPTIONS**



State Senator Hugh T. Farley (R, C, I - Schenectady) announced the New York State Senate acted on legislation that would crack down on the growing black market in non-controlled prescription drugs which puts patients at risk and rips off taxpayers through Medicaid fraud. Legislation makes it a crime to fraudulently prescribe, buy, and sell these types of medications.

These expensive medications are most often paid for by Medicaid and sold on the street for a fraction of their actual value. The criminals who buy the medications often bring them to a stash house where they are collected and resold to unscrupulous pharmacies or shipped to other countries.

Other negative consequences include sick patients selling their medications instead of taking them, unsuspecting patients buying black market drugs from their pharmacies, and pharmacies selling drugs which have not been properly stored and maintained. This legislation will increase and establish criminal penalties that better fit these crimes.

The bill will be sent to the Assembly.