



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

George Amedore

## Senator Amedore Announces New Law to Expand Access to Drug Treatment Courts

GEORGE A. AMEDORE, JR. September 30, 2015

| ISSUE: **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, PRESCRIBED DRUGS OR PRESCRIPTIONS, JUDGES OR JUDICIAL**

Senator Amedore announced that Governor Cuomo has signed a bill he co-sponsored to allow recovering addicts to enter judicial diversion programs while they obtain medically-assisted treatment. The new law (S.4239B) is a great victory in the State's continued efforts to help curb addiction.

Amedore serves as the co-Chairman of the New York State Senate's Task Force on Heroin and Opioid Addiction. In forums held throughout the state earlier this year, this legislation was recognized as a priority by recovery providers and advocates in order to help eradicate addiction issues.

"We need to do everything possible to ensure better outcomes for those who are struggling with addiction," said Senator Amedore. "Many have found the path to recovery through medically assisted treatment, and with this new law, we are ensuring they will be allowed to participate in judicial diversion programs while having access to the treatment plan they need at the same time."

New York State has been a nationwide leader in utilizing drug treatment courts as an alternative to costly incarceration alternatives.

“I want to thank my co-sponsors on this legislation, and thank the Governor for signing this new law that will save countless lives,” said Senator George Amedore.

The new law goes into effect immediately.

####