



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James S. Alesi

## Community Update - Week Ending March 5, 2010

JAMES S. ALESI March 8, 2010

ment in New York State, and while I encourage, and support, alternative forms of renewable energy, increasingly municipalities across the state are being pressured by national or international energy firms to site and permit wind-generating facilities within their jurisdiction.

Again, while I encourage alternative forms of energy, our towns cannot – and must not – be pitted against one another because of New York's current policies regarding the siting and permitting of wind farms. The present town-by-town approach, where nearby residents may be negatively impacted by a wind farm (of a dozen or so wind turbines, each standing 200-400 feet tall) built in a neighboring municipality must be changed.

I have introduced legislation (S.785-A) that would establish a task force on wind-generating facilities' siting and permitting policies. By establishing a comprehensive, state-wide plan for siting and permitting wind-generating facilities, and by looking at the placement of wind farms on a region-by-region approach, rather than the current patchwork approach, energy firms, municipalities, and residents will all benefit.

### **Honorary Chairman for Bivona Child Advocacy Center**

I was extremely delighted to serve as Honorary Chairman for

Recent proposals by Governor Paterson and Democratic leaders seek to balance our multi-billion dollar budget deficit by overtaxing and overregulating businesses. Last year, to pay for Governor Paterson's 10% increase in state spending, \$3.6 billion of new taxes and fees were imposed on New York's businesses by Democratic leaders.

To the contrary, the simplicity of my legislation is also its strength: I am confident that if our state's businesses were given incentives and the ability to grow in New York, and then left alone, thousands of good-paying jobs would be created, and our economy would flourish.

As Ranking Member on the Senate Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business Committee, and as a former small business owner myself, I am familiar with the many challenges that face our state's business community. To spark job creation and economic growth for New York's businesses,