



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

## ACTING AGAINST HEROIN

THOMAS F. O'MARA June 9, 2014



Albany, N.Y., June 9—The State Senate today approved a series of legislative initiatives co-sponsored by Senator Tom O'Mara (R,C-Big Flats) aimed at addressing the growing heroin crisis across the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions, and statewide.

"We need to act now to save lives. Heroin's resurgence is a public health and safety crisis that's putting individual lives and communities at risk. It threatens to overwhelm local systems of health care, social services and criminal justice," said O'Mara. "The Senate Task Force on Heroin has put forth a meaningful combination of tougher laws and law enforcement, greater public awareness and education, and more effective prevention and treatment strategies. Hopefully the Assembly will follow the Senate and these measures will soon be signed into law by the governor."

The Senate's comprehensive anti-heroin legislative strategy was first unveiled two weeks ago by the joint, bipartisan Senate Task Force on Heroin and Opioid Addiction, on which O'Mara serves as a member.

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