



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.

## Statement by Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr. on Progress of Paid Family Leave Policy in New York State

JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR. March 14, 2016

| ISSUE: **PAID FAMILY LEAVE**

Howard Beach, NY (March 14 2016) Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr., the sponsor of legislation(S.3004/A.3870) to create a comprehensive paid family leave policy in New York State, made the following statement following the passage of the State Senate's 2016-17 one-house budget resolution:

“Although I found the overall one-house Senate budget proposal passed on March 14th lacking in some vital respects, I know it is the starting point for intense negotiations with the Assembly and Governor on a final spending plan. There are many good elements in this one-house plan, including the inclusion of a paid family leave program, which I most certainly welcome.

“I am very encouraged and appreciative that both the Senate and Assembly budget resolutions reflect a strong commitment to enacting a comprehensive and long-overdue paid family leave policy this year. The momentum continues to grow.

“Over the next three weeks, as the Senate and Assembly work to negotiate the remaining details of a final 2016-2017 State Budget by the April 1st deadline, I will continue to advocate

for a truly meaningful paid leave program to enable New York families to take time off from work to bond with a new child, care for a seriously ill loved one, or address the complications confronted by military families during times of deployment.

“The Governor has said he wants a paid family leave program enacted this year. The Republican-controlled Senate has included a version in its one-house budget, and the proposal included in the Assembly one-house spending plan mirrors the legislation that I and Assemblymember Cathy Nolan have advocated for a number of years.

“If we can come together in the Senate and Assembly, join across political party lines, work out the final details and adopt a real paid family leave program in this budget, New York State will have taken a giant step in helping its families balance their pressing responsibilities on the work front with their equally important obligations on the home front. I look forward to seeing this goal become a reality.”