



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Velmanette Montgomery

Senator Montgomery and Assemblywoman Peoples-Stokes sponsor Caucus Weekend Workshop "From Prisons to Pot: Marijuana Legalization & Revisioning New York State's Economy" with special guest Montel Williams

SENATOR VELMANETTE MONTGOMERY February 11, 2018

| ISSUE: **MEDICAL MARIJUANA, MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION, END MASS INCARCERATION, CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM**

Senator Velmanette Montgomery Assemblywoman Crystal Peoples-Stokes

*present a*

NYS Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators Conference Workshop

**FROM PRISONS TO POT**

**Marijuana Legalization & Revisioning New York State's Economy**

State Senator Velmanette Montgomery and Assemblywoman Crystal Peoples-Stokes welcomes special guest Montel Williams to Caucus Weekend for a discussion on the legalization of Marijuana. We will address the health benefits of medical marijuana and explore legalization through a criminal justice and economic lens.

As part of the New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators, Inc.'s **47th Annual Legislative Conference**, State Senator Velmanette Montgomery and Assemblywoman Crystal Peoples-Stokes welcomes special guest Montel Williams to Albany for a discussion on the legalization of Marijuana. The Caucus Weekend workshop will address the health benefits of

**medical marijuana and explore legalization through a criminal justice and economic lens. The workshop is scheduled for Saturday, February 17, 2018 from 3:30pm—4:45pm in the Empire State Plaza Convention Center, Meeting Room 1.**

Senator Montgomery continues her visionary leadership to spotlight issues important to her constituents and to build coalitions to create institutional change in New York State. From leading the fight to legalize needle exchange programs to stem the spread of AIDS among intravenous drug users at the start of her legislative career to championing the movement that led to the passage of Raise the Age reform last year, Senator Montgomery now turns the spotlight on the issue of marijuana legalization as a means to end mass incarceration and revitalize the economy in Upstate New York.

The New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators, Inc. (NYSABPRL) was founded by legislative caucus members as a non-political, charitable organization. The purpose of the NYSABPRL is to promote the common good, social and general welfare of the community; foster and maintain an interest in racial tolerance in the world; to encourage the development of the community and promote economic growth. This year's Annual Conference is scheduled for February 16-18, 2018 and the theme is “On This Journey, There is Still #HOPE.”

For a schedule and description of all Caucus Weekend workshops, download the PDF.

For more information about 47th Annual Legislative Conference and the schedule of weekend events, visit <http://nysabprl.org>

To learn more about Senator Montgomery's 2017 Caucus Weekend workshop “Voices from the Formerly Incarcerated: Reform and Re-Entry” Workshop, visit

<https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/articles/velmanette-montgomery/voices-formerly-incarcerated-reform-and-re-entry-workshop>

For more information about Senator Montgomery's criminal justice legislative agenda, visit

<https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/velmanette-montgomery/legislation>

To learn more about Senator Montgomery's leadership on criminal justice issues, visit

[https://www.nysenate.gov/sites/default/files/articles/attachments/2016\\_legislative\\_mailer.pdf](https://www.nysenate.gov/sites/default/files/articles/attachments/2016_legislative_mailer.pdf)

<https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/velmanette-montgomery/legislators-and-human-rights-activists-hail-end>

<https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/articles/velmanette-montgomery/senator-montgomery-convenes-connecting-dots-networking-event>