

## Senator Seward Sworn In for New Term

JEFF BISHOP, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR January 1, 2019



**ONEONTA**, 01/01/19 -- State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I – Oneonta) took the oath of office today for his 17th senate term at the Foothills Performing Arts Center in Oneonta.

Following the swearing-in ceremony, Seward addressed supporters and well-wishers, recounting recent legislative victories, and vowing to continue to tackle the challenges facing the 51st Senate District and New York State:

"It is an honor to work for the people of the 51st senate district - to stand up for the families and individuals that live here and be their voice in Albany.

"This past year featured a number of legislative victories - lower taxes for our middle class families, record state aid for our schools, support for our upstate roads and bridges, new laws to address the crushing heroin and opioid epidemic, and help for our small businesses, farmers, veterans, and senior citizens.

"Now as we embark on a new legislative session I stand ready to address the many challenges we face. Too many people are leaving the state, and that is a trend we need to reverse. I will be working to create new opportunities, making sure businesses can afford to grow, and families and individuals can succeed.

"The political landscape in the senate has changed, but my first priority remains the same – to represent the people of the 51st Senate District and fight for our core values and our way of life.

"I have never lost sight of the reason I first ran for senator – to serve the public, and help improve the lives of the people who call this area home. As I embark on my 17th term, I remain motivated by that same sentiment. While there are challenges, I am excited about the prospects that lie ahead, and I look forward to a successful 2019."

Senator Seward was first elected to the state senate in 1986; he will be serving his 17th term. He was recently named the ranking member of the influential Senate Finance Committee.