



PRESS RELEASE
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American Red Cross in New York State recognizes legislators who ‘SleeveUp’ to protect and prepare their communities

Sen. Martinez receives Legislator of the Year award for work with organization committed to alleviating human suffering.



Photo: New York State Sen. Monica R. Martinez receives a 2025 New York State Legislator of the Year award from the American Red Cross on Jan. 28, 2025 in Albany, N.Y. (Click [here](#) for a downloadable version of this photo).

ALBANY, N.Y. – State Sen. Monica R. Martinez has been named a 2025 New York State Legislator of the Year by the American Red Cross. The award recognizes Sen. Martinez for her commitment to building more resilient communities and supporting disaster preparedness initiatives.

In making its selection, the American Red Cross highlighted Sen. Martinez’s efforts to expand emergency preparedness and response programs in high-risk communities. She was a key supporter of the inaugural "Prepare the Town" event in Brentwood, which brings preparedness, trainings, and resources directly to residents. Additionally, Martinez has hosted emergency preparedness presentations for constituents as part of the Home Fire Campaign and supported educational programs for both adults and children.

“The American Red Cross is a lifeline in times of crisis, offering relief, education, and hope when it’s needed most,” said Sen. Martinez. “From responding to hurricanes, floods, or home fires, or equipping communities with life-saving skills like CPR, this organization stands ready to support those in need. I am humbled to be recognized as a 2025 New York State Legislator of the Year, not because it highlights my efforts, but because it reflects the impact of supporting one of the most respected organizations dedicated to alleviating suffering. Through its work and partnerships with government leaders, the Red Cross brings vital support to neighbors facing unimaginable loss.”

On Jan. 28, 2025, the Red Cross recognized Sen. Martinez and four additional representatives from across New York State during a ceremony in Albany. Other honorees included Assemblywoman Marianne Buttenschon, Assemblyman William “Bill” Conrad III, State Sen. Jessica Scarcella-Spanton, and State Sen. Bill Weber.

The American Red Cross in New York State is comprised of three regional chapters: Greater New York, Eastern New York, and Western New York. These chapters work together to provide disaster relief, emergency response training, and blood donation services across the state.

For more information on the American Red Cross and its initiatives, [click here](#).