

BILL PERKINS
SENATOR, 30TH DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN
CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES &
COMMISSIONS
COMMITTEES:
CITIES
CIVIL SERVICE & PENSIONS
CODES
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
FINANCE
JUDICIARY
LABOR
TRANSPORTATION

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



ALBANY OFFICE
817 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
518-455-2441
FAX 518-426-6809
DISTRICT OFFICE
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
163 WEST 125TH STREET
SUITE 912
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10027
212-222-7315
FAX 212-678-0001
E-MAIL
PERKINS@SENATE.STATE.NY.US
WEBSITE
WWW.NYSENATE30.COM

February 23, 2011

The Honorable Barak H. Obama, President
Of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

I write as your friend, joining, I'm sure, with many well wishers, to extend congratulations. Today you have taken a principled stand directing the Justice Department to cease defending the indefensible. Recognizing that the 'Defense of Marriage Act,' banning recognition of same-sex marriage, is unconstitutional, you have recognized the right of all Americans to fair and unprejudiced treatment.

Having cosponsored New York State's, as yet un-passed, Marriage Equality legislation, what you have done, the right thing to do, gives me encouragement. Earlier you led the overturn of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell', and now this: Little by little, bit by bit, 'every bird builds its nest'. Through such deeds, one day, 'liberty and justice for all,' will resonate with everyone.

Bayard Rustin and Coretta Scott King must be proud of what you announced today, I know that I am.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Perkins".

Senator Bill Perkins
30th District