

Senator Marty Golden's SENIOR CITIZEN LEGISLATIVE REPORT

As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Aging, I work closely on bills and laws that impact senior citizens. As your State Senator, I take a personal interest in making our neighborhoods better places to live with dignity, independence and respect. Over the years, I have funded every senior citizen center, transportation services, regularly hold Senior Health Fairs, offer health care services and assist on the individual needs of all senior citizens.

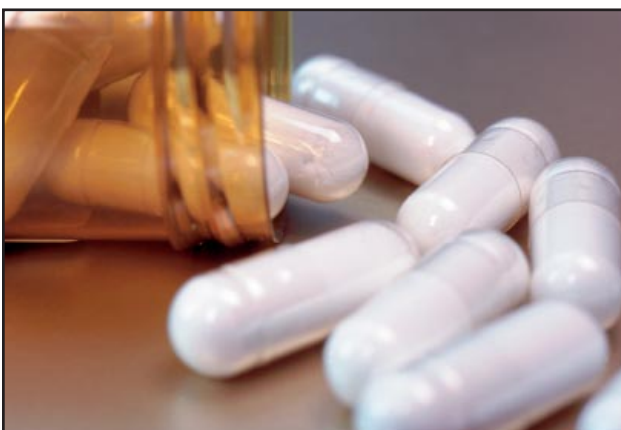
The information presented is a summary of the bills and laws that I am advocating that will improve the health and well-being of all senior citizens across New York. In addition, I have included a listing of important contact information to help you with questions about health care, prescription drugs, taxes, public safety, transportation and other issues.

As always, I am available for you at my district office by calling 718-238-6044 (Bay Ridge Office) or 718-627-3659 (Marine Park Office).

2006 Legislative Report

New York is on the brink of a dramatic demographic shift because we as a State are getting older. Over the next few years, one in four New Yorkers will be over 60, and one in ten will be over 75. As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Aging, I am focused on ensuring that essential services are in place to care for New York's senior population, and to be certain our elders are afforded independence, dignity and choice.

Bulk Purchasing of Prescription Drugs Saves Taxpayers Money



New York State spends billions of dollars on prescription drugs but does not spend our money wisely. I am proposing that we combine all spending on the various state prescription drug programs into one single bulk purchasing plan to lower costs by 16%-60%. Buying any product in bulk makes sense because the savings are passed along to the consumer. By pooling the purchasing power of state and private prescription drug programs to take advantage of discounts and rebates, my

prescription drug bulk purchasing plan (S. 5029) is a major step toward combating out-of-control prescription drug prices.

New York State Compact for Long Term Care - A new approach



As the costs of health care, housing and other day-to-day needs rise, senior citizens and their families are challenged with paying for long term care. I am the author of an innovative bill (S.3530) that would provide a new approach to paying for long term care in New York. Under my plan, a chronically ill individual pledges to pay a certain amount for long term care, and when that pledge is fulfilled, the state pays about 90% of the individual's long term care needs, with the individual paying the rest plus a participation fee.

My long term care compact is more inclusive than insurance because you cannot be denied coverage once you have met your pledge. It also allows individuals more choice with respect to the long term care services they use, and does not require participants to impoverish themselves. S.3530 passed the Senate unanimously in June, but has yet to pass the Assembly.

Combating Elder Abuse

Crimes committed against senior citizens, who are often among our most vulnerable members of society, are especially heinous. Sadly, however, senior citizens are victims of crimes ranging from physical and emotional abuse to neglect and financial or material exploitation. Even more horrifying is the fact that many of these crimes are perpetrated by someone the senior trusts.

The Senate Committee on Aging is pursuing a variety of initiatives to combat elder abuse. These include establishing mandatory reporting requirements when abuse is suspected, criminal penalties geared specifically toward those who harm senior citizens, and increased funding for services and research so we may protect seniors before they are subjected to harm.



Caregiver Assistance Act



Some 80% of care provided to seniors in New York is provided by family members, usually at home, on a voluntary basis, by a daughter. While voluntary, this care is certainly not without cost — often the caregiver cuts back or stops working, and certainly the emotional and physical cost is immense. There are currently no tax programs specifically targeted to families who provide help and care to elderly relatives. My Caregiver Assistance Act (S. 1194) acknowledges the important role of family caregivers by providing a tax credit for money spent by the taxpayer on behalf of a senior relative and by allowing

the STAR tax-exemption to be portable when a senior moves in with a relative.

SCRIE

In 2005, I authored a law that raises the senior citizen rent increase exemption (SCRIE) program from \$24,000 to \$35,000 for seniors and disabled persons. The full value of the \$35,000 exemption is phased in through 2009.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency Services

Police & Fire Emergencies	911
Police Precincts	
61st	718-627-6611
62nd	718-236-2611
63rd	718-258-4411
68th	718-439-4211
Volunteer Ambulance Services	
Bensonhurst	718-256-1211
Bravo	718-680-1111
Gerritsen Beach	718-332-3333
Flatlands	718-338-0444
Poison Control Center	212-764-7667
Emerg. Children's Services	212-966-8000
Emerg. Housing/Relocation	212-289-8000
Keyspan	718-643-4050
Con Ed Electric	800-752-6633
Con Ed Gas	718-261-8130

Library Branches

Bay Ridge	718-748-5709
Dyker	718-748-6261
Flatlands	718-253-4409
Fort Hamilton	718-748-6919
Gerritsen Beach	718-368-1435
Gravesend	718-382-5792
High Lawn	718-234-7208
Homecrest	718-382-5924
McKinley Park	718-748-8001
Mapleton	718-256-2117
New UTC	718-236-4086
Ryder	718-331-2962
Sheepshead Bay	718-368-1815
Ulmer Park	718-265-3443

Community Boards

No. 10	718-745-6827
No. 11	718-266-8800
No. 12	718-851-0800
No. 13	718-266-3001
No. 15	718-332-3008
No. 18	718-241-0422

Community School Boards

District 20	718-759-3900
District 21	718-714-2500
District 22	718-368-8000

Government Agencies

Abandoned Car Removal	311
Air/Water/Sewer/Noise Complaints	311
Animal Bites & Complaints	212-676-2483
ASPCA Animal Control	311
Attorney General Office	212-416-8000
Board of Elections	212-487-5300
Civil Court	718-643-8133
Consumer Complaints	877-382-4357
County Clerk	718-643-7037
Crime Victims Board	718-923-4325
Department of Aging	212-442-1322
Department of Finance	311
Department of Transportation	311
District Attorney	718-250-2000

Fire Hazards	718-636-1700
Food Stamps/HRA Info line	877-472-8411
Garbage Complaints	311
Handicapped Assistance	212-788-2830
Health	311
Health Dept. Complaints	311
Home Energy Assistance	311
Homeless Services	800-994-6494
Housing/Heat Complaints	311
Lawyer Referrals	718-624-0843
Landlord Tenant Civil Court	212-791-6000
Legal Aid	212-577-3300
Marriage Licenses	718-802-3581
Mayor's Office	212-788-3000
Medicaid/Welfare HRA Info Line	877-472-8411
Motor Vehicle Bureau	718-966-6155
NYS Attorney General	212-416-8000
Office of Emergency Management	718-422-4800
Parking Violations Info	311
Quality of Life Hotline Non Emergencies	311
Queensborough Office	718-286-2900
Red Cross	212-787-1000
Rent Administration	718-739-6400
Snow Removal	311
Street/Traffic Light Repair	311
Subway/Bus Info	718-330-1234
Tenant Information/Assistance	718-435-7585
Towing Information	311
Traffic Dept. (signs, info)	311
Victims Services	212-577-7777

Important Hotlines

Access a Ride	877-337-2017
AIDS	800-541-2437
Breast Cancer	800-877-8077
Brooklyn Veterinarians Emergency Service ..	718-748-5180
Child Abuse	800-342-3720
Disabilities	800-522-4369
Domestic Violence	800-942-6906
Drug & Alcohol Abuse	800-522-5353
EPIC	800-332-3742
Empire Medicare Services	800-442-8430
EZ Pass	888-288-6865
Healthy Baby Hotline	800-522-5006
Insurance Information	800-342-3736
Metrocard Reduced Fare Office	718-243-4999
Missing Children	800-FINDKID
Mortgage Information	800-382-HOME
Poison Control Center	212-340-4494
Public Service Commission	800-342-3377
Runaways	800-999-9999
Senior Citizens	800-342-9871
Social Security & Medicare	800-772-1213
STAR	311
Suicide Prevention	212-532-2400
Terrorism Hotline	888-NYC-SAFE
Thruway Road Conditions	800-THRUWAY
Veterans	888-VETS-NYS
Voter Information	800-367-8683
World Trade Ctr Disaster Post-Traumatic Stress Hotline	212-995-5824

Please post by your telephone



Dear Friend:

I'm pleased to provide you this guide to important phone numbers for our community. The listing will come in handy should you ever need assistance from city agencies, community or school boards, or emergency personnel, such as the police, fire department or ambulance services. For easy access, keep this listing in a convenient location by the phone or on your refrigerator. As always, if I can be of service to you, please contact me at either of my District Offices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marty Golden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marty" being more prominent.

Marty Golden
State Senator

SENATOR GOLDEN IS ONLINE!

Senator Golden now has an internet website at www.senatorgolden.com where you can keep up-to-date on news from Albany and around the community. From the website, you can read about Senator Golden's legislative initiatives, learn how to save money with state programs like EPIC+, access Senate Sessions live from Albany and e-mail him your thoughts or questions. There's something for everyone, so please take a moment to check it out. If you don't own a computer, most public libraries provide access to the internet.

WEBSITE ADDRESS: WWW.SENATORGOLDEN.COM

E-MAIL ADDRESS: GOLDEN@SENATE.STATE.NY.US

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOR YOUR SAFETY & WELFARE

Courtesy of

Senator Marty Golden

Chairman, Senate Aging Committee

7403 5th Ave.
Brooklyn, New York 11209
718-238-6044

Legislative Office Bldg.
Room 946
Albany, New York 12247
518-455-2730

3610 Quentin Road
Brooklyn, New York 11234
718-627-3659