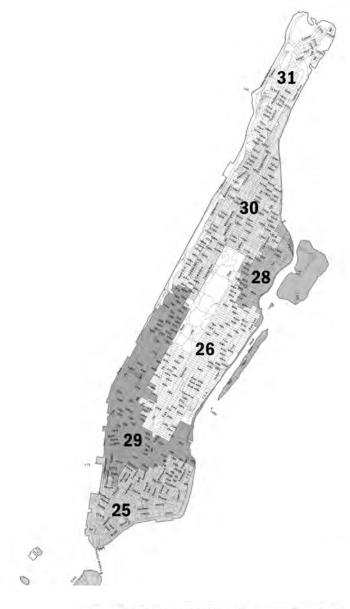


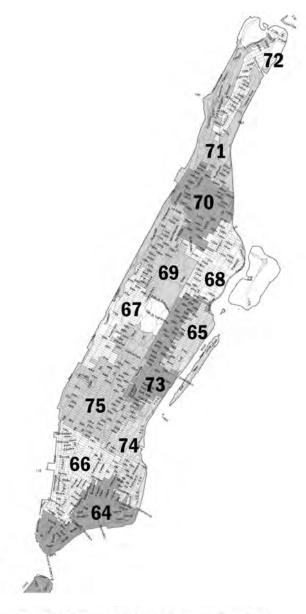
# MANHATTAN STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002; US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000



# MANHATTAN STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002; US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000



### MANHATTAN STATE SENATE RACES

#### **DISTRICT 25**

District encompasses portions of Manhattan and Brooklyn.

Please see District 25 evaluation in Brooklyn section on page 28.

## MANHATTAN STATE ASSEMBLY RACES

#### **DISTRICT 64**

No Preference

#### LUKE HENRY — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 33 Occupation: Attorney

Education: University of Albany (BS); Fordham Law (JD)

Luke Henry, an attorney, is in his first run for public office. Supportive of all of Citizens Union's issues, he is a passionate advocate for reform and improving the quality of life in his district. Knowledgeable of the larger issues his district faces, Henry appears less focused on the finer details of solutions for those problems. He cites the districts most pressing issues to be environmental protection, the rising costs and inaccessibility of housing, education, and healthcare. Henry is optimistic that with community support and sunlight in Albany, he can be successful in pushing his agenda for more after-school program, affordable housing, and more environmentally friendly policies like the creation of green roofs. He also expressed strong support for campaign finance reform and rules reform, and believes that with a new vanguard of reformers entering Albany, these goals can be achieved. To address the looming budget crisis in the state, Henry believes common sense reforms like instituting an immediate hiring freeze, cutting back on member item spending, implementing a merit based allocation of these funds, and reform of the Public Authorities, would relieve alleviate the need to cut in other areas. Henry is a charismatic and energetic



presence, but lacked a necessary grasp of how to address specifically some important state government issues that Citizens Union feels is needed to work effectively in Albany and for his district.

#### PAUL NEWELL — DEM

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 33 Occupation: Community Organizer

Education: Whitmore College (BA)

Paul Newell is an organizer, and founded the Ubuntu Education Fund, a South African charity with ties in New York City. Newell, born and raised in lower Manhattan, is running in his first campaign for public office because he believes that government has the potential to be more responsive to the voters and the community. Newell stated that the biggest difference between his opponents and he is that he believes effective change in how the city operates comes from reforming government so that it can better respond to the needs of voters instead of being influenced by special interests and various factions in the district. He believes that he is uniquely qualified to work toward that aspiration given his track record as a community activist.

A supporter of Citizens Union's core issues, Newell said his first act as a freshman member of the Assembly would be to vote for a reform speaker who would encourage transparent government and enact many of the reforms CU supports. His top three concerns are providing more affordable housing, increasing support for quality schools, and making streets more livable and friendly to neighborhood residents. A strong supporter of congestion pricing, Newell believes that the proposed plan did not go far enough in offering transportation alternatives and would like to have seen the park-and-ride areas built near "outer" borough subway terminals to encourage mass transit use. He believes that expanding the width of sidewalks, particularly along Canal Street, would help encourage pedestrian use. In addition, he would push harder for home rule, so that the wishes of the city with issues, like congestion pricing, are not determined by state government. Newell believes that the only way to implement solutions in his district on issues like housing, transportation and healthcare, is to implement comprehensive legislative rules reform, since it would result in more transparency and vigorous debate of the issues. As an assemblymember, he would work to educate his constituents on why a broken Albany affects their everyday lives. He supports the millionaires' tax, the creation of an independent budget office, and full public financing; he opposes lowering individual contribution limits without more comprehensive campaign finance reform, citing concerns about the effect that it would have on less well funded candidates.



Newell is a strong and appealing first-time candidate, with the knowledge and specific ideas needed to make a potentially effective legislator, running against an experienced and effective legislator. Though a life long resident, it is unclear how well known or connected he is to the district he wishes to represent given that he has yet to demonstrate a strong base of support within his district, making it difficult perhaps to wage a successful campaign. No doubt, too, the lack of organized support for his campaign is connected to the strength of his opponent, the incumbent, who is also the Speaker of the State Assembly. Citizens Union is impressed by what Newell brings to the table, but feels that he has not generated the support within his district to wage the kind of successful campaign that is necessary.

#### SHELDON SILVER — DEM, WF

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18. Age: 64 Occupation: Speaker, NYS Assembly Education: Yeshiva University; Brooklyn Law

Sheldon Silver has been a member in the Assembly for thirty-two years and has served as speaker for the last fifteen. Silver did not fill out his candidate questionnaire, because of his position as Speaker, though he did indicate his support for, and leadership on, a number of Citizens Union's proposed reforms.

The Speaker has long been a leader on campaign finance reform, most recently when the Assembly voted this past June to support an improved public funds matching bill. Silver also was the original sponsor of a same-day voter registration bill for which he secured a favorable vote in the Assembly over two decades ago. In addition, Silver is open to changing the make-up of the appointed representatives on the Commission on Public Integrity so that no one elected officer can make a majority of the appointments. He, however, does not support expanding their authority to conduct oversight of the legislature, leaving such responsibility with the legislature. Silver is also open to increasing the disclosure of legislators' outside income and possible conflicts of interest, but is not willing to voluntarily disclose such information or champion such a reform. On redistricting reform, the Speaker did express support for enacting legislation that would strengthen criteria and create stricter guidelines in drawing state legislative district lines, but opposes the creation of a non-partisan independent redistricting commission. He feels that no commission is truly independent.

On the looming state budget crisis, Silver believes that budget cuts may be necessary, but enacting the so-called millionaire's tax can raise much needed revenues. The Speaker supports a more transparent budget process and would like to see conference committees used more to publicly resolve differences. At the local level, Silver stated that he actively listens and responds to the concerns of his constituents. He is proud of how he has helped protect and increase state funding for public education and



provided resources for affordable housing in his district. Furthermore, Silver also expressed his support for finding ways to relieve congestion in the city, but remained firm that the recent proposal did not require an Assembly floor vote. He believes that it is the prerogative of the Assembly majority to exercise its power and determine which bills come to the floor for a vote, as other legislative bodies do. In addition, he spoke passionately about his opposition to tort reform, though he suggested that he might be open to supporting the reduction of attorney fees.

Given his long tenure as Speaker, Silver has been a strong and directed leader of the New York State Assembly. He has been attentive and responsible in representing not only the interests of his district, but also of the entire city. On issues like campaign finance reform, Silver has been a leader, proposing and passing meaningful measures that have failed to become law because they are not taken up in the Senate. But much remains undone in the area of state government and political reform and the Speaker is responsible in part for that record. Citizens Union hopes that if Silver is re-elected, he will work with the Governor and his partners in the Senate, in seeking a more open, transparent, and accountable state government and enacting long overdue political reform.

## **DISTRICT 72**

#### ★ PREFERRED CANDIDATE — ADRIANO ESPAILLAT — DEM, WF ★

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

Age: 53 Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Queens College (BS)

For twelve years, Adriano Espaillat has been an active member of the New York State Assembly. He currently serves as chair of the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislative Caucus, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. As chair of the Veterans' Committee, Espaillat has succeeded in providing free college tuition for Iraqi war veterans in the CUNY and SUNY schools. Espaillat feels that his leadership on public safety has been important in helping to reduce the number of homicides in Washington Heights in the past twelve years. In addition, through the creation of seventeen new schools, Espaillat has worked to improve education and to create a better teacher-to-student ratio. Espaillat is seeking re-election because he believes he has more to accomplish in Albany, specifically pushing for stronger tenant's rights. He has already begun to fight for more affordable housing in his district through the rezoning of Sherman Creek that has the potential to offer badly needed affordable housing units. Espaillat is a supporter of campaign finance reform and is in favor of a public matching system for campaign financing. However, he opposes a ban on contributions from corporations and unions, arguing that it will hurt less



wealthy candidates. He cites that many small business owners in his district prefer to donate money from their company rather than their personal bank accounts. In addition, he believes that the only way for working class union members to have a say in the government is through voicing their opinions when their unions decide to which candidate they will donate. Espaillat opposes the selection of New York trial court judges through an appointment process, because he believes it will negatively affect diversity on the bench. On the issue of the looming budget problem in the state, Espaillat supports the millionaire's tax but also recognizes the need for cuts in government spending. He maintains that while some savings can be made in education and healthcare, it is important that these services are not cut. Citizens Union preferred Espaillat in 2006 and despite his opposition to our position on judicial selection and limiting campaign contributions from corporations and unions, we prefer him again in the primary for his growing track record of serving his district, and demonstrating that he is a thoughtful, attentive, and effective legislator.

#### **MIGUEL MARTINEZ - DEM**

Has returned questionnaire, responses on page 18.

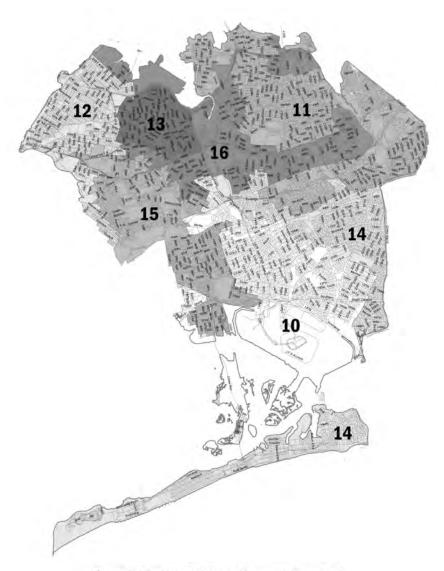
Age: 37 Occupation: Member, NYC Council (District 10)

Education: BS and Post-Grad

Candidate DID NOT APPEAR for a scheduled interview.



# QUEENS STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP



Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002; US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000