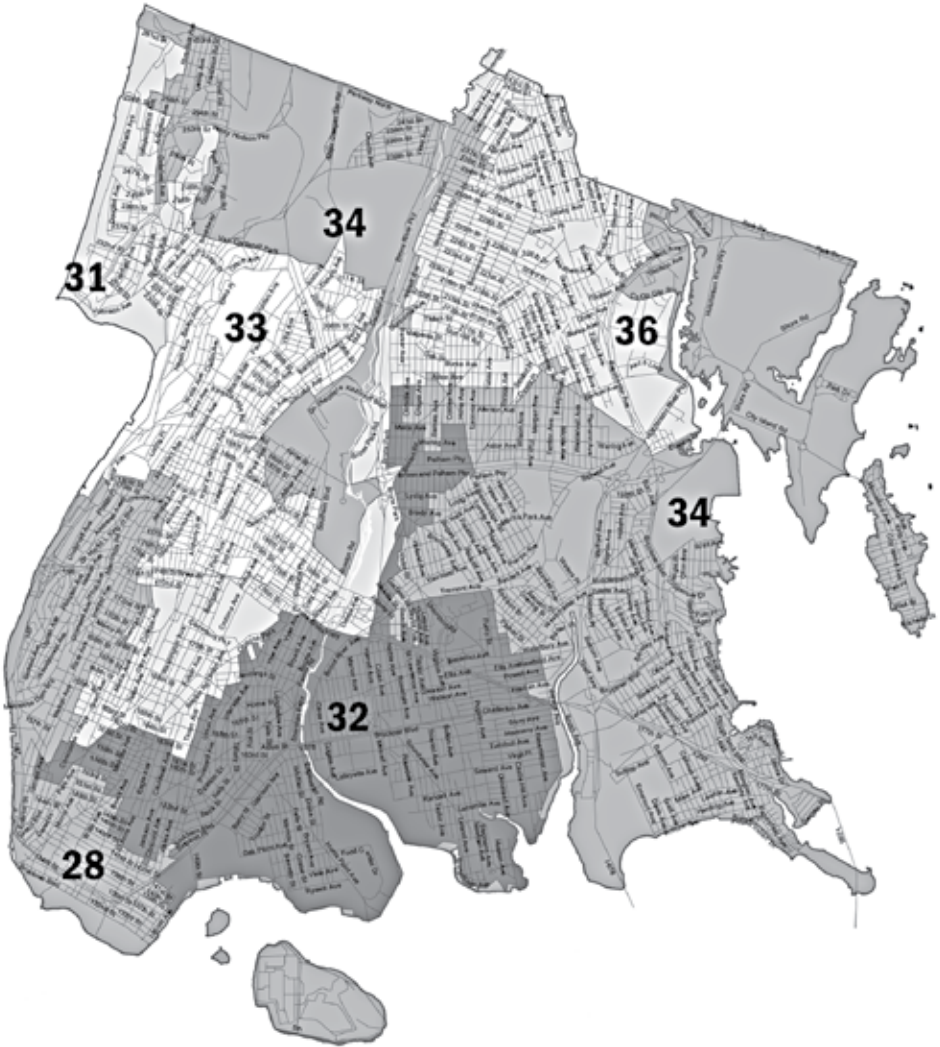
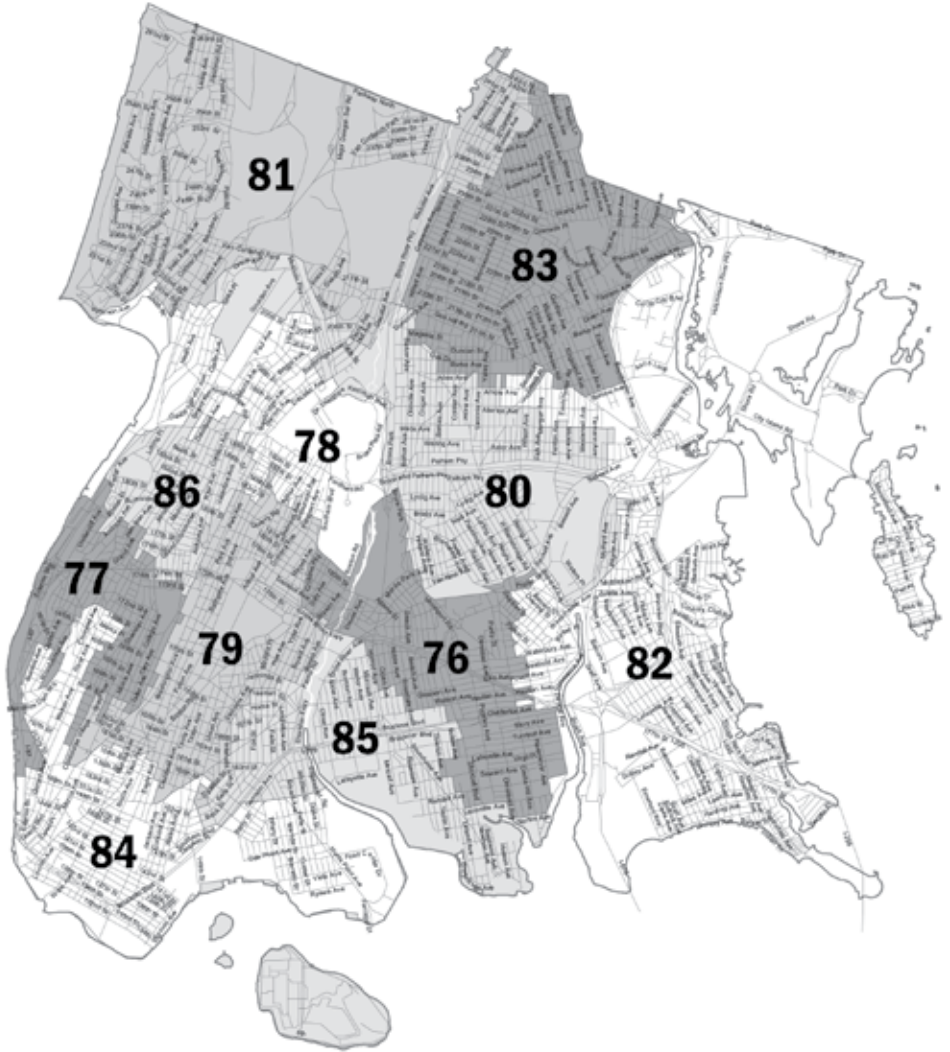


## BRONX STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP



# BRONX STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



**BRONX STATE ASSEMBLY RACES**

DISTRICT 76

★ **ENDORSED CANDIDATE—PETER RIVERA—DEM, WF** ★

*Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16*

*Age: 61 Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly*

*Education: Pace University (BA); St. John's University (JD)*

Peter Rivera has represented the 76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District since 1992. He believes the most important issues facing the city are higher education, reform of the New York State Minority/ Women Business Owned Enterprise (MWBE) program, and diversification of the state workforce. Although he is a supporter of much of Citizens Union's agenda, Mr. Rivera opposes a citizens' committee for trial judge appointment on the basis of merit. He cited the potential lack of diversity in an appointing committee as a major concern, and would support government appointments to the selection committee if it included input from minority organizations, in particular those who represent the Latino community. Overall, he is not overly opposed to the election of judges, but believes that it is most important that quality judges are recruited to serve not only on the Supreme Court, but also on housing and arbitration courts. Mr. Rivera supports mayoral control of city schools and believes the current grading system is a positive step towards providing parents with important and useful information. However, he does recognize that many parents in his district feel left out of the process. He believes that the creation of the Parent Coordinator position increases communication between the Department of Education and parents. In addition, Mr. Rivera would like to find ways to increase the number of students who are completing higher education successfully and cited abysmal high school graduation rates, the lack of academic and emotional support available to college students, and the lack of role models in the lives of students as causes of this problem. One of his top priorities is to reform the MWBE program, which is responsible for certifying minority and women owned businesses to allow them to do business with state agencies. He proposed increasing the number of certified programs so that the bidding and award process would be more competitive and fair. If re-elected his legislative priorities would be to diversify the state workforce, increase voter turnout in the Bronx, begin planning for the 2010 reapportionment and redistricting, and pass health parity for post-traumatic stress disorder and brain injuries. Mr. Rivera has proved to be an effective legislator and representative for his district, earning him Citizens Union's endorsement. We hope that if he is re-elected he will work with us to push forward meaningful campaign finance, ethics, and election reform and continue to be an advocate for educational reform and the MWBE program.

CHARLES SERRANO—REP, CON

*Has not returned questionnaire.*

[CANDIDATE COULD NOT BE SCHEDULED FOR AN INTERVIEW.]

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DISTRICT 81

★ **ENDORSED CANDIDATE—JEFFREY DINOWITZ—DEM, WF** ★

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16

*Age: 53 Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly*

*Education: Bronx HS of Science; Herbert H. Lehman College, CUNY (BA);  
Brooklyn Law School (JD)*

First elected in 1994, Jeffrey Dinowitz represents the 81<sup>st</sup> Assembly District in the Bronx. He is a supporter of most of CU's reform agenda, particularly campaign finance reform. Mr. Dinowitz prefers a full public financing system for candidates' campaigns; however he would support a public matching system. He is also unsure about placing a ban on union contributions while allowing them to form PACs. He would also be supportive of an independent redistricting commission, but has concerns with the ability to make it truly independent. Mr. Dinowitz said he has always supported election reform, and noted that he recently introduced a bill to award New York's electoral college votes based on the national popular vote as a way to bring the state back in to play during presidential elections. He said he has also introduced a number of bills to create easier ballot access. As the chair of the Aging Committee, Mr. Dinowitz said he is currently fighting to resist the city's effort to consolidate and close senior centers. On education, he would support renewing mayoral control of city schools, but believes there needs to be meaningful adjustments to its current implementation to include an avenue for communication between the Department of Education and the community. He noted that the last time School Board elections were held in his district, more than 10,000 people voted and they also held forums to allow the public to provide input, something that does not happen now. Mr. Dinowitz also made a point to mention that his positions and priorities are rooted in the wishes of his constituents and that he would not be afraid to resist outside pressure on an issue if his opposition was in the best interest of his district. He disagrees with CU's support for congestion pricing and feels that a public vote on a bill with little chance of passing would not have been beneficial to the process. His reasoning on these issues, however, was thoughtful and presented in terms of the impact it might have on his constituents. During his tenure he has proved to be a responsive, effective, and active representative with well articulated positions and for these reasons has earned CU's endorsement.

JEFFREY KLAPPER— CON

*Has not returned questionnaire.*

[CANDIDATE COULD NOT BE SCHEDULED FOR AN INTERVIEW.]