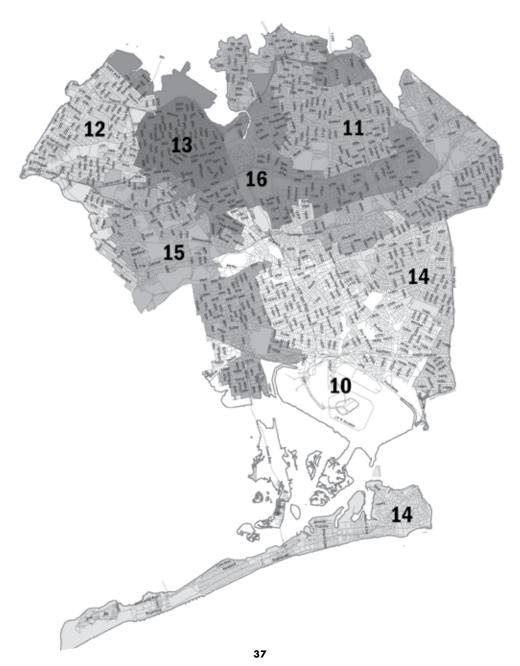
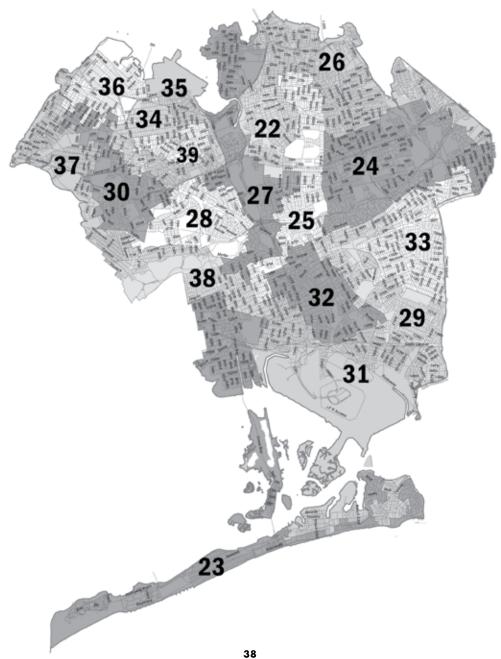


# QUEENS STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP





# QUEENS STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT MAP



⊾★ ★ ★ QUEENS RACES

## **QUEENS STATE SENATE RACES**

DISTRICT 11

#### $\star$ ENDORSED CANDIDATE—FRANK PADAVAN—REP, CON, IND $\star$

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16 Age: N/A Occupation: Member, NYS Senate; Education: N/A

In his thirty-six years serving in the New York State Senate, Frank Padavan has earned a wealth of support from organizations ranging from environmental groups to healthcare unions. He has made a reputation for himself as having a strong commitment to social services, including education and health care. On reform issues, he supports the creation of an independent redistricting commission and the expansion of the jurisdiction of the Commission on Public Integrity to include legislative ethics violations, however he noted that no one elected official should make a majority of the appointments. While he did not support a public vote on congestion pricing, Mr. Padavan did vote in support of legislation to mitigate traffic congestion in all five boroughs. During the last session, he introduced two bills to ensure transparency and accountability in elections and campaigns. He also advanced a plan to reduce government waste and increase public awareness and input in state spending decisions because he believes that this will allow the legislature to avoid cutting important safety nets, such as education and healthcare. As one of the original sponsors of the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), he has stood up against members of his own party to fight for increases in its funding, and has successfully acquired 32 acres from the state to build two new elementary schools in his district. He believes that every child under 18 should have comprehensive health insurance, including access to mental health coverage. Mr. Padavan has fought against Medicaid fraud, stating that thousands of recipients have moved out of the state yet continue to collect benefits. When asked during the candidate interview, he confirmed that he introduced legislation to prevent undocumented immigrants from receiving publicly funded healthcare services beyond emergency care, and would require providers to notify the bureau of immigration and customs of the patient's suspected illegal immigration status. Another priority for Mr. Padavan is to curtail gambling because he believes that the money the state earns in gambling revenues comes out of the pockets of lower and middle-class New Yorkers who ultimately may seek social services. Addressing Queens' high rate of recent home foreclosures, Mr. Padavan sponsored a bill-now state law-which which brings lenders and borrowers together and puts a ninety-day freeze on foreclosures. Mr. Padavan's continued commitment to reform issues and his strong record as an effective representative of to his district have earned him Citizens Union's endorsement. Should he be reelected, we look to work closely with Mr. Padavan to make further progress on our reform agenda.

JAMES F. GENNARO—DEM, WF Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16 Age: 51 Occupation: Member, NYC Council Education: SUNY Stonybrook (BA in Geology); MS Policy Analysis and Public Management

First elected to the City Council in 2001, James Gennaro serves as Chair of the Council's Environmental Protection Committee. He is a dedicated and effective environmentalist who supported a public vote on congestion pricing. Citing the reformist record of the City Council in contrast to the failure of reform measures in Albany, Gennaro stated that state government reform is among his top five campaign promises. He stated that new leadership is needed



in Albany, and that he will work to eliminate waste, corruption, and increase transparency. He also supports campaign finance reform to "get the money out of politics" starting with public financing and nonpartisan redistricting. Through his leadership position at the Council, he sponsored two wetland protection laws, and stated that his Jamaica Bay watershed protection commission serves as a national model. Gennaro, who studied geology and environmental science before becoming a policy analyst for the Council, worked to renew the City's waiver from the Environmental Protection Agency's water filtration requirements in order to maintain New York City's rate of 90% unfiltered water. He continues to fight against upstate drilling, which may affect the City's water quality. He has advocated for these issues, often in opposition to Mayor Bloomberg and Governor Paterson, and successfully pushed the federal government to adopt stricter requirements. As a testament to his ability to tackle tough issues, he has fought to balance the interests of his constituents with the needs of his community. On the one hand, Mr. Gennaro has fought to preserve low-density residential communities; however, also recognizing the growing demand for high-density housing, he supported up-zoning despite its unpopularity among his constituents. He also supports rent-regulation and additional housing and services for seniors. Mr. Gennaro has often stood with Citizens Union on a number of important issues, including campaign finance reform. He has been an effective member of the Council and one of the body's stand-out legislators, especially on environmental issues. The district would be well served were he to be elected to the Senate. He did not, however, make a convincing make a case as to why Citizens Union should turn its support from Senator Padavan, who has served his constituents well and is a supporter of Albany reform.

#### DISTRICT 15

### ★ ENDORSED CANDIDATE—JOSEPH P. ADDABBO JR.—DEM, WF ★

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16 Age: 44 Occupation: Member, NYC Council Education: St. Johns University (BS in Accounting); Touro College School of Law (JD)

Joseph Addabbo has represented the 32<sup>nd</sup> City Council District since 2002. Mr. Addabbo is largely supportive of the CU reform agenda. Mr. Addabbo recognized that while he benefited from the practice of using tax payer dollars to send out congratulatory greetings and salutations to his constituents, he praised CU's role in the Council banning such practices. He is still unsure about changing the current election administration structure in the state, but would like to see more transparency with the Boards of Elections. He also said he believes that more public input is needed at the Board of Elections, specifically with the selection of new voting machines. Mr. Addabbo has focused his campaign and service in the City Council on constituent services. He noted that he currently has two district offices running full time and has said he will continue this practice if elected to the senate. He also runs a 24-hour operator service for his constituents to call with problems, and if elected, he said it would be the first time his district would have such easy access to its state senator. At the local level, Mr. Addabbo helped amass \$1.8 million for the Rockaway Ferry, of which \$1.5 million was used to subsidize the fare. He noted that the ferry is an important mode of transportation because that area of the district is far away and disconnected from the subway system. The ferry provides an alternative mode of transportation to those constituents. Mr. Addabbo said the most prominent issue that distinguishes him from his opponent is his commitment to tenants' rights. Citizens Union has worked with Mr. Addabbo in the Council for the past several years, and he has proved himself to be an effective, hardworking and responsive representative for his constituents. Given his Council experience and our view that he will be more of a reformer in the state senate than the current incumbent, Addabbo earns CU's endorsement.



#### SERPHIN R. MALTESE—REP, IND, CON

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16 Age: 75 Occupation: Member, NYS Senate Education: Stuyvesant H.S.; Manhattan College (BA); Fordham Law School (LLB, JD)

[CANDIDATE COULD NOT BE SCHEDULED FOR AN INTERVIEW.]

DISTRICT 16

### ★ ENDORSED CANDIDATE—TOBY ANN STAVISKY—DEM, WF ★

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16 Age: N/A Occupation: Member, NYS Senate; former High School Teacher Education: Syracuse University (BA); Hunter Graduate School; CUNY Queens

Toby Ann Stavisky has served in the State Senate since taking over the seat from her late husband in 1999. Ms. Stavisky supports Citizens Union's agenda on campaign finance and election reform. She co-sponsored bill S3108 that would regulate financing of elections by imposing expenditure limits and creating a campaign finance board. In addition, Ms. Stavisky would advocate for a restructuring of the state Board of Elections to create nonpartisan administration of elections. Through the creation of a senior center, Ms. Stavisky has worked to improve the lives of senior citizens in her district. In addition, Ms. Stavisky has tried to improve schools in her district through her participation with the Higher Education committee. Ms. Stavisky has often called for change in Albany and would like to reorder the Senate's priorities to focus on education. While Ms. Stavisky realizes that the days of a free SUNY or CUNY education are gone, she hopes to make college more affordable and increase the funding of colleges in Queens. She will also prioritize safety in her district and has tried to improve conditions on the ominous Queens Boulevard by asking for red-light cameras and countdown signals over the crosswalks. Ms. Stavisky has also advocated for increased police staffing in her district precinct to reduce incidences of robberies. It is apparent that Ms. Stavisky has the experience and continued determination to bring change in Albany and aid her constituents. Given her desire to push forward a reform agenda, her experience, and her track record in Albany and the district, Citizens Union supports her re-election and looks forward to reevaluating her progress on reform in the future.

PETER A. KOO—REP, IND, CON Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16 Age: 56 Occupation: Pharmacist, Owner of Retail Pharmacy Education: University of Hawaii (BS in Chemistry); University of New Mexico (BS in Pharmacy)

Peter Koo, the owner of a growing pharmacy business in Flushing, is running his first race for public office. Mr. Koo emigrated from Hong Kong at nineteen, put himself through college, started working at Queens Hospital, and eventually bought his own pharmacy in Flushing. He now owns five pharmacies and is the president of the Flushing Chinese Business Association. He is vocal about his desire to create change in Albany as a citizen legislator without ties to the current political establishment. He would advocate for transparency, a truly independent Commission on Public Integrity, and a ban on contributions from corporations. However, Mr. Koo raised much of his \$275,486 from corporations, and does not appear to have a thorough knowledge of many of the issues to which he lends his support. While he promises to abolish legislative member items to ensure transparency in state spending, he affirms that he would continue to accept them as long as they existed, and has no specific plan regarding how



to reform this issue. Given that Mr. Koo's expertise lies in the business realm, he would, if elected, aim to create more opportunities for immigrants by facilitating the process of opening a corporation, and increasing the availability of small loans. He also would like to cut down on Medicaid fraud, alleging that many recipients are not eligible, but does not believe that health-care funds should be diminished. To protect home owners and renters in a shifting economy, he would impose a cap on property tax while maintaining rent regulations. Mr. Koo is on the Board of LaGuardia Community College, where he created a scholarship fund. He said he would like to see more schools in his district, claiming that he walks the streets daily and is in touch with the needs of the community. He was unaware, however, that a new elementary school had already opened and was in full attendance. Though Mr. Koo is passionate about giving back to the community in which he is living out his "American Dream," Citizens Union feels that he lacks a thorough enough understanding of state government necessary to represent his district effectively and implement the reforms he seeks.