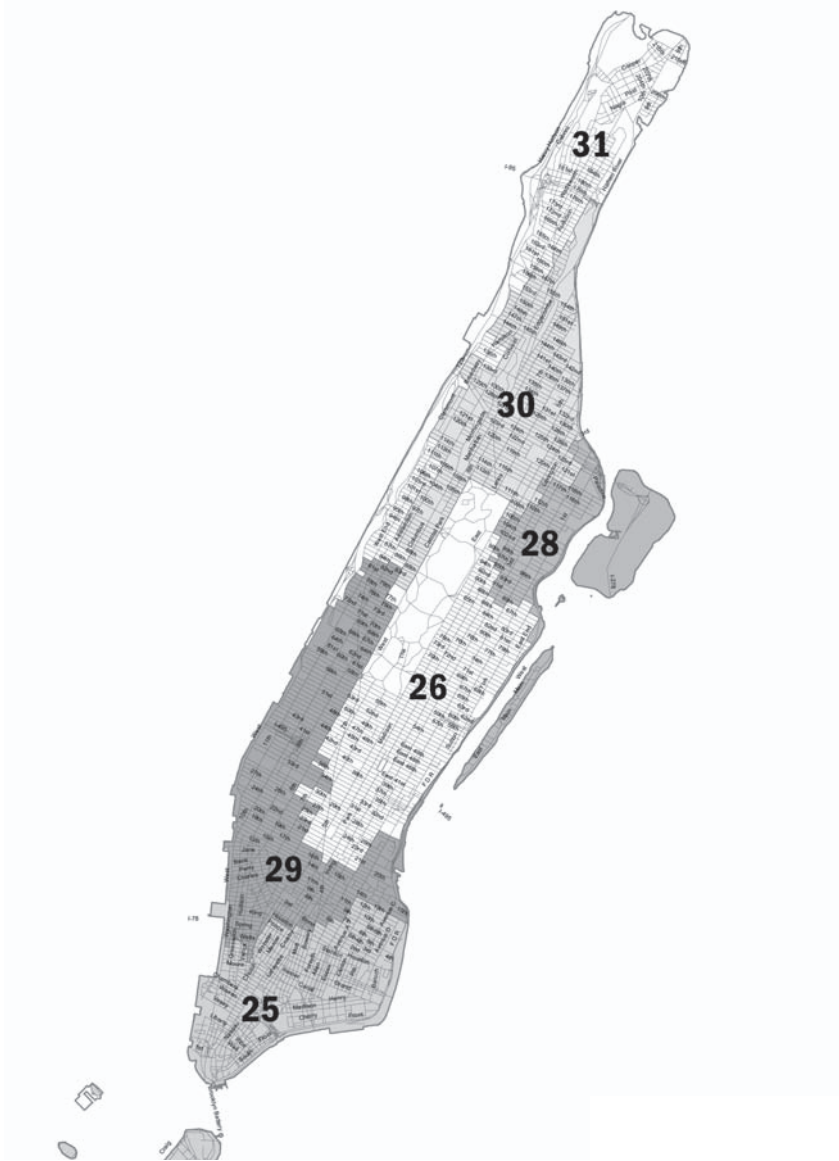




MANHATTAN STATE SENATE DISTRICT MAP

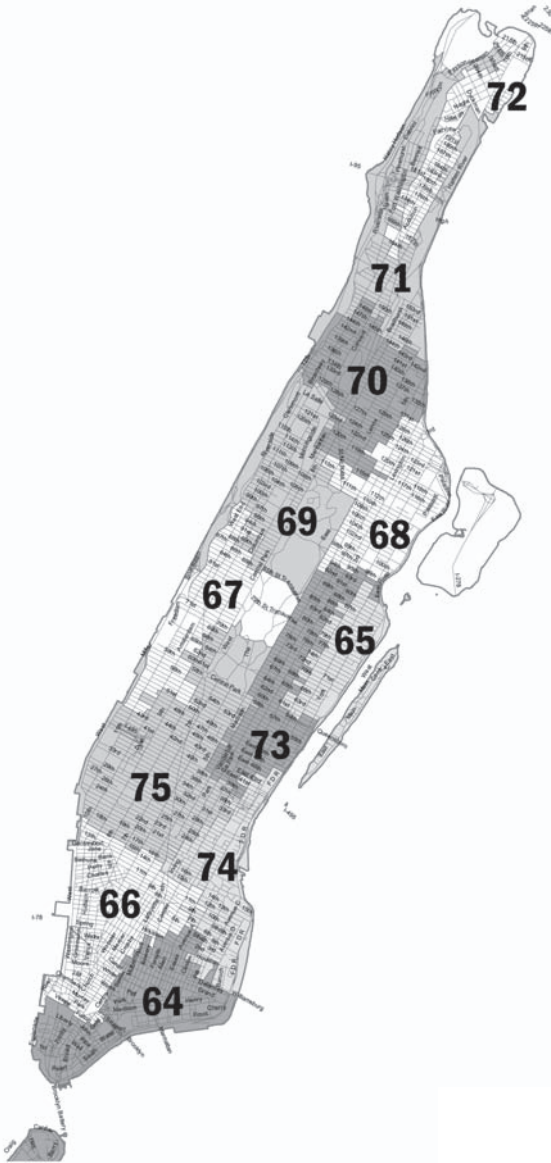


Sources: NYS Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, April 22, 2002;
US Census Bureau TIGER Line files, 2000





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 LEGISLATIVE RACES

• MANHATTAN STATE SENATE RACES •

District 25

NO ENDORSEMENT

MARTIN CONNOR - DEM

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Senator, NYS Senate Education: Catholic University of America (BA, JD)

Martin Connor, a practicing election law attorney, was first elected to the New York State Senate in a 1978 special election. Connor highlights his role in the passage of an increase in the Earned Income Tax credit and in making New York's school tax relief program more equitable for seniors and homeowners. Because lower Manhattan is increasingly attracting young families and single residents, Connor proposes the construction of new playgrounds, schools, daycare centers and parks to meet the growing needs of his changing district. Connor believes that instituting four-year staggered legislative terms, instead of the current two-year terms, would allow the members to act more independently and be more attentive to their legislative duties as it would reduce the burden placed on legislators to fundraise and campaign every two years. Connor co-sponsored Senator Liz Krueger's bill that advocates tighter controls on how campaign contributions can be spent, but has himself been embroiled in an ethical discussion over the use of campaign funds to purchase a car that he reportedly uses primarily for business and then reimburses the expense when it is used for personal reasons. Connor's continued personal pursuit to kick his opponent off the ballot after the courts had certified him as eligible to run is one example of how incumbents use ballot access requirements to create obstacles to competitive challengers, thereby draining their competitors' campaign resources by fighting to stay on the ballot. Senate District 25 would be better served by a candidate that raises the ethical bar and adheres to a strict set of principles, instead of enforcing troubling aspects of current law that are in need of reform.

KEN DIAMONDSTONE- WFP

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Self employed Education: New York University (MA)

Having recently moved into the district to run, this is Ken Diamondstone's first campaign for the State Senate, though he has run for Congress and City Council before. Diamondstone supports a non-partisan Board of Elections because, he says, his residency



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in the district was challenged this year as a result of the two-party system. He supports Assemblyman Brodsky's bill to establish more transparency and accountability in public authorities, and also supports a mandatory three-year waiting period before any former legislator can become a lobbyist. As a housing developer, Diamondstone states that the creation of affordable housing would be one of his top priorities if elected. His plan to do so includes fighting for the repeal of the Urstadt Law in order to return control over rents, now currently in state hands, to the city; legislation that would make a public hearing mandatory before the demolition order for a residential building could be approved by the state; withholding 421a tax benefits from developers who do not reserve 30 percent of all new units for low- and middle-income residents; and introducing a tax on the sale of any Mitchell Lama units to remove the incentive for the buildings to go private. Diamondstone does not support the current plan to develop the Atlantic Rail Yards, citing concerns about the lack of community input in the formation of the project proposal. Diamondstone's deliberate move into the district to run for the Senate seat, while still owning his home outside the district, raises concerns about his motivations and his ability to represent district constituents.

District 29

H **ENDORSED CANDIDATE – THOMAS K. DUANE- DEM, WFP H**

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Member, NYS Senate Education: Lehigh University (B.A.)

After serving for seven years on the New York City Council, Thomas Duane was elected to the State Senate in 1998. He now serves as the ranking member on the Senate Codes and Crime Victims, Crime and Corrections Committees. To reform the judicial selection process for Supreme Court candidates, Duane supports a system similar to that used in Manhattan where executive directors of various legal and non-profit groups appoint individual representatives to administrative panels responsible for screening and nominating judicial candidates. He is not opposed to direct election of candidates, but without public financing of judicial campaigns, Duane believes open primaries for judgeships would limit candidates to only those with connections to money. To combat the advantage incumbents have in legislative elections, Duane proposes a voluntary campaign finance system that would allow challengers to spend more than incumbents, a position he acknowledges is not likely to have many supporters in Albany. In addition, he supports campaign contribution limits of \$1,000 for Assembly candidates and \$2,000 for Senate candidates. Along with these components, Duane believes that reporting is the most crucial element of a successful campaign finance program and would like to see transparency improvements in the current system to account for smaller contributions not currently required to be disclosed. Duane considers some of his most important work to be his efforts to enact Timothy's Law,



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legislation that prohibits insurance companies from limiting coverage for mental illness and substance abuse disorders, and his role in the passage of the “Work Study Internship Bill,” which allows students on public assistance to count work study hours toward their workfare requirements and continue to work towards higher education. Duane’s continued commitment to issues of reform has earned him a Citizens Union endorsement.

DAN RUSSO – REP

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Director of Finance

Education: Columbia University (BA); (MBA)

This is financial executive Daniel Russo’s first run for New York State Senate. Russo supports the merit selection of judges though he is opposed to the creation of an independent ethics commission with jurisdiction over the legislative and executive branches of government believing that this would add just another layer of government to an already bloated system. Along the same lines, Russo opposes a campaign finance program for state elections, as he believes this would just ultimately cost taxpayer dollars and increase the size and scope of state government. Russo would be willing to support reform of the Wick’s law in the future, but states that his empathy with unions and fair labor compensation prevent him from supporting it now. While opposed to the concept philosophically and as a long term solution, Russo would make the retention of rent stabilization a priority, noting its direct and immediate impact on those who live in the district. He believes his background in finance will be an asset in the budget process and that being a Republican can help him bring change to Albany from within the senate majority. While Russo is an intelligent candidate, his policy positions and approach to governance do not appear to be as well thought out as they could be.

District 30

H ENDORSED CANDIDATE – BILL PERKINS – DEM, WFP H

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Deputy Majority Leader, New York City Council

Education: Brown University (BA)

A former member of the New York City Council and former candidate for Manhattan Borough President, this is Bill Perkins’ first campaign for State Senate. Perkins was the former chair of the Council’s Government Operations committee, a position he handled very ably during his tenure. As chair, he presided over matters related to the city’s model



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campaign finance system, and now supports the adoption of such a system for statewide elections as well. Perkins advocates a repeal of the Urstadt Law to allow for greater “home rule” over rent increases, and criticizes the Mayor for not using the same amount of political capital to push for this as he did for the 2012 Olympics bid or the West Side Stadium. Perkins hopes to be able to work with the new gubernatorial administration to reform the state’s criminal justice system, particularly in re-examining what crimes are classified as felonies and further reforming the Rockefeller Drug Laws. He would like to see an increase in the frequency of public hearings in the State Legislature, noting their success in the City Council in engaging the public in policy debates. Perkins’ leadership in his community and on the City Council has earned him Citizens Union’s endorsement and hope that he will embrace reform measures if he gets to Albany.

JESSIE FIELDS – IND

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Physician, St. Luke’s Hospital

Education: Bryn Mawr College (BA); Medical College of Pennsylvania (MD)

Dr. Jessie Fields is a practicing physician at St. Luke’s Hospital in Harlem with twenty years of healthcare experience. She is one of the founding members of the Independence Party of the State of New York and is currently vice-chair of the New York County Independence Party. In 2005, Fields ran for Manhattan Borough President on the Independence ticket and though she lost to Scott Stinger, she took second place in Harlem. As a physician, Fields has a unique perspective on the healthcare system and supports basic changes that would cut costs, specifically a refocusing of the healthcare system on primary and prenatal care, and other preventative measures. Fields supports an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission to draw state district lines to make elections more competitive and reduce the advantages of incumbency. Fields also supports term limits for state representatives because she believes that the career politicians in Albany will never truly agree to reform the system from the inside. Fields believes it should be easier for citizens to put initiative and referenda on the ballot and therefore supports the lowering of the citizen signature requirements to do so. Fields does not support the lowering of candidate contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates for public office because she contends it would disadvantage independent candidates as it would require a great deal of small contributions to compete with the two major parties. If elected, Fields would hold public forums and town hall meetings in order to keep the community informed and involved in housing decisions, such as the Columbia University expansion, which has not sat well with many local residents. Fields demonstrates a commitment to reform in Albany and, if elected, would be a diligent, hardworking legislator.



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ALPHONZO MOSLEY – REP

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Retired (Real Estate Manager)

Education: General Education

A local real-estate entrepreneur, Al Mosley has waged several campaigns for elected office including runs for City Council and State Assembly. Mosley claims that reform in Albany is ‘long overdue,’ and he is frustrated by career politicians who benefit from their family names and those who ‘disappear’ after each election. If elected, Mosley pledges to propose a bill that would tax all people who are gainfully employed in his district and use those funds for community services including legal aid, education for young adults, and incorporating immigrants into the community. Mosley speaks of restoring hope and opportunity to the youth in his district and believes his election would end some of the racial tension that has plagued his district. While this is not Mosley’s first run for office, his legislative proposals and his general grasp of politics and political representation could be improved.

District 31

District encompasses portions of Manhattan and the Bronx.

Please see District 31 evaluation in Bronx section on page 28

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District 65

H ENDORSED CANDIDATE – ALEXANDER “PETE” GRANNIS – DEM, WFP H

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Rutgers University (BA); University of Virginia (JD)

First elected to the New York State Assembly in 1974, Pete Grannis is the chair of the Assembly Insurance Committee and formerly served as chairman of the Assembly Housing Committee. Grannis supports efforts to reform how campaigns are financed and district lines are drawn, but he asserts that increasing voter turnout should be the number one priority to ensure more competitive elections. Grannis believes that redistricting reform should be more focused on producing stricter guidelines for drawing



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legislative district lines, including measures to ensure that they be contiguous and compact, as opposed to being preoccupied with the makeup of the commission itself, arguing that he has not seen strong evidence to suggest that lines drawn by a non-partisan entity produce more responsive representation or better government. Grannis supports a merit appointment process for the selection of judges and more stringent restrictions on lobbyist contributions to candidates. Grannis co-sponsored legislation this year that passed the Assembly which would ban gifts and honoraria to legislators, require ethics training for legislators, the executive branch and registered lobbyists, and require the state Board of Elections to establish rules regarding inappropriate use of campaign funds. Grannis also sponsored legislation that would create an independent budget office modeled on New York City's Independent Budget Office and the Congressional Budget Office. During his tenure, Grannis has spoken on behalf of tenants' rights and crafted legislation to create housing programs for the homeless as well as affordable housing programs for low, moderate, and middle income residents. Grannis also authored New York's Clean Indoor Air Act, one of the nation's most comprehensive sets of restrictions on smoking in public areas. Grannis is a proactive and influential voice for reform in Albany, and his dedication to producing quality legislation and better government have earned him Citizens Union's endorsement.

MICHAEL FANDAL – REP

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 16. Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

Occupation: Retired NYC Police Officer, Clown

Education: Hunter College (BA)

District 67

H ENDORSED CANDIDATE - LINDA ROSENTHAL - DEM, WFP H

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: University of Rochester (BA)

Linda Rosenthal was elected in a special election in February of 2006 to replace former Assemblymember Scott Stringer who is now serving as Manhattan Borough President. For thirteen years, she served as Manhattan District Director and Director of Special Projects for U.S. Congressman Jerry Nadler. Rosenthal supports term limits for committee chairs and leaders, open elections for committee chairs, and the creation of subcommittees to allow for more involvement from junior members, arguing that rank and file members of the Assembly should be granted more responsibility and



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independence within the legislative process. She also believes that campaign finance reform, specifically lowering candidate contribution limits for statewide candidates, is essential to ensuring credible challengers for public office. Rosenthal is pushing to reform the procedure for special elections with a bill that would establish a specific timetable for when a special election must be called, the creation of a "clean campaign finance program" for special elections that would allow candidates to opt into public campaign financing after a fundraising contribution minimum is met, designate portions of lobbyist fees to be deposited into the program fund, and establish special primary elections. Rosenthal is committed to the humane treatment of animals and is the prime sponsor of a bill to extend humane treatment standards for experimental studies in school laboratories, as well as a bill to include animals under the provision of a court order of protection for victims of abuse. During her short time in the Assembly Rosenthal has demonstrated herself as a hard working and dedicated legislator willing to push for reform and she has earned Citizens Union's endorsement.

THEODORE HOWARD – REP

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate could not be reached for an interview.

District 68

NO ENDORSEMENT

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL IV – DEM, WFP

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Howard University (BA); Fordham Law School (JD)

Adam Clayton Powell IV served on the New York City Council for six years, and then worked at the Federal Emergency Management Agency before being elected to the New York State Assembly in 2000. Powell is proud of his efforts to help strengthen the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) which protects seniors with low income from rent inflation. Powell cites education and unemployment as the most pressing issues in his district, and points to his role in securing a grant for a local nonprofit to train small business owners. Powell, like most of his colleagues, would like to reinstate the commuter tax which the Assembly bargained away several years back, as well as create a stock transfer tax to raise funds for key public projects. Powell believes that elections would be more competitive and candidates more independent, if the state were to adopt a system of pub-



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lic financing for elections. Surprisingly, Powell was unaware of a federal court ruling that the current judicial convention system for the selection of party nominees for Supreme Court in New York is unconstitutional, perhaps an indicator of his lack of engagement in current legislative affairs in Albany. Citizens Union was troubled by his prior ethical misconduct admissions and continues to look for signs that Powell has developed into a well informed and dedicated public servant.

DEAN L. VELASCO – REP, IND, CON

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Legal Reporter, World Republic Television

Education: (JD, BS)

Dean Loren Velasco is a reporter and producer of World Republic TV, and is currently the campaign manager for a fellow Republican running on the East Side of Manhattan. Velasco claims credit for exposing large-scale teaching fraud abuses in 1998 that ultimately prompted the formation of the New York City Fellowship to recruit teachers. He is currently lending his legal expertise to a class action lawsuit from the Black and Latino high school students who were considered ineligible to attend MLK High School. Velasco supports easier access for candidates to appear on the ballot, including lower signature thresholds and less burdensome witness requirements to encourage more competitive elections. He also supports the statewide adoption of Election Day voter registration to allow greater voter participation. Velasco believes that New York must pursue Medicaid fraud more aggressively, arguing that there is over four billion dollars worth of savings to be gained, which he believes should be directed to tax cuts.

District 72

H ENDORSED CANDIDATE – ADRIANO ESPAILLAT – DEM, WFP H

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Queens College (BA)

First elected to the Assembly in 1996, Adriano Espaillat is chair of the Legislative Task Force on Reapportionment and the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus. Attuned to the city's housing crisis. Espaillat is the founder of Project Remain, an effort to identify landlords engaging in unfair practices, Espaillat is a cosponsor of Assemblymember Gianaris' bill establishing an independent redistricting commission to draw state district lines, and as the newly appointed chair of the Reapportionment



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Committee, is presiding, with Assemblymember Destito, over a series of statewide hearings on the subject. Additionally, Espaillat is the lead Assembly sponsor of a bill to reform the way prisoners are counted for redistricting purposes. Espaillat also supports the creation of an independent budget office to provide revenue estimates for the state that would serve to reduce the delay that slows the budget process each year as all parties argue over how much the state actually has to spend. Espaillat opposes the open election of candidates for the state Supreme Court, as he believes winners would be determined by the amount of money each candidate raises and spends rather than their qualifications for the position. As an alternative remedy, he proposes the creation of screening panels for Supreme Court judicial candidates, which he believes will yield more qualified and diverse candidates. Espaillat has shown himself to be an effective Assemblymember and has earned Citizens Union's endorsement.

MARTIN CHICON - REP, IND

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate could not be reached for an interview.

District 73

H ENDORSED CANDIDATE – JOHNATHAN L. BING – DEM, WFP H

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: University of Pennsylvania (BA); New York University (JD)

First elected to the State Assembly in 2002, Jonathan Bing serves as chairman of the Assembly Housing Committee's Subcommittee on Mitchell-Lama Housing. Bing signed on to a 2005 Assembly rules reform resolution authored by Assemblymember Scott Stringer, which helped bring about initial changes to how the Assembly operates. Bing also authored a bill requiring New York State to develop an electronic reporting system to process campaign finance information, similar to that of New York City. Bing supports the Judicial Campaign Finance Reform Act of 2006 that limits judicial campaign contributions to \$500 and establishes a public financing system for judicial elections. During his tenure in the Assembly, Bing has authored ten bills which have subsequently become law, including a bill that expanded the statute of limitations for workers' compensation claims made by 9/11 rescue and recovery workers, and one which updated the state library funding formula to use the most current census figures, which provided New York City the additional funds its population deserves. Bing considers healthcare a top priority and has held health fairs in his district, which offered



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free flu shots for seniors, free dental checkups for children and mammograms for women. Bing is also a proponent of the arts and he has helped secure \$12.5 million in capital funding for East Side organizations including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Guggenheim Museum. Bing has proven himself to be an industrious and successful junior Assembly member and will undoubtedly continue to serve his constituents well if re-elected, which is why Citizens Union has chosen to endorse him.

ROBERT HEIM – REP, IND

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Attorney

Education: Fordham College (BA); Fordham University (JD)

Robert Heim worked as a former prosecutor with the Securities and Exchange Commission until leaving in 1999 to start his own law practice. Heim supports reforming the Wick’s law that requires state agencies to award multiple and separate contracts to complete major construction projects, which he believes adds additional costs to state construction developments. Heim supports full disclosure of “member items” that are doled out by legislators each year to increase transparency and accountability in the budget process. Heim opposes lowering campaign contribution limits for legislative and statewide candidates as he believes this would inhibit challengers who rely on larger contributions to compete with well-funded incumbents. Heim supports stronger civil confinement laws that would place prisoners deemed prone to recidivism in psychiatric institutions or have their sentences extended. Heim also views overdevelopment as a pressing issue in his district. In order to protect the character of the East Side from high-rises and national chain stores, Heim believes the city needs to use more stringent zoning restrictions to control building height, size and signage.

District 74

H ENDORSED CANDIDATE – BRIAN KAVANAGH – DEM H

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Attorney, Consultant

Education: Princeton University (AB); New York University Law School (JD)

Brian Kavanagh served as chief-of-staff for City Council member Gale Brewer and as an aide to Mayors Koch and Dinkins from 1989-1993. He recently worked with Demos, a national good-government organization, on a nationwide effort to secure the voting rights of low-income citizens. Kavanagh supports the creation of an independent redis-



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tricting commission to take the power to draw district lines out of the hands of those that benefit directly and argues that redistricting guidelines must ensure that ethnically distinct neighborhoods are not divided during the redistricting process. After having run for City Council last year, Kavanagh would like to see the city's campaign finance regulations adopted at the statewide level. He believes that candidates should be encouraged to abide by spending caps and disclosure requirements in exchange for public matching funds. To address the affordable housing crisis in the city, Kavanagh would like to broaden the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) program and fight for state funding of new Mitchell Lama-style affordable housing units. Kavanagh has displayed a commitment to addressing critical district issues and a strong resolve for tackling the daunting task of government reform. His thoughtful and assertive approach to leadership would make him a welcome addition to the State Legislature and has earned him the CU endorsement.

SYLVIA FRIEDMAN – WFP

Has returned questionnaire; responses on page 15

Occupation: Member, NYS Assembly

Education: Columbia University (BA, MA)

A former school teacher, Sylvia Friedman was elected to the New York State Assembly in February 2006 after longtime Assemblymember Steve Sanders decided to step down. Prior to her election to the Assembly, Friedman was a State Democratic Committeewoman and chair of the Reform Caucus. Friedman currently serves on the Housing and Election Law Committees in the Assembly. Friedman was initially elected through a special election, which uses a committee nomination process that circumvents a party primary, resulting in an all-but-assured victory for the anointed Democratic nominee in a district with such a large voter enrollment disparity. While Friedman is not to be held accountable for this process, it is a system that is in need of reform. Friedman cites the lack of affordable housing as the most pressing issue in her district and would like to see construction of new affordable units, particularly at the former Con Edison Plant where a new development of luxury housing, retail stores and offices is planned. If re-elected, Friedman pledges to push for the construction of new schools and youth centers in her district, as well as for the modernization of classrooms and the preservation of green space. Friedman believes that all judicial candidates should be screened and approved by an independent citizens committee, and then be given the opportunity to run in primary and general elections. Friedman is a thoughtful and committed leader with strong support in the community.



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FRANK SCALA – REP

Has NOT returned questionnaire.

Candidate could not be scheduled for an interview.

Occupation: Business Owner



The following races in Manhattan have not been evaluated by Citizens Union:

SENATE

District 26 **Liz Krueger** (D,WF)*
Philip Pidot (R,GRP)*

District 28 **Jose Serrano** (D,WF)
Citizens Union met with Serrano, but did not evaluate the race because he faces no opponent.

ASSEMBLY

District 64 Michael A. Imperiale (R,C)*
Sheldon Silver (D,WF)

District 70 **Keith Wright** (D,WF)*
Glenda Allen (R)
District 71 Herman D. Farrell Jr. (D)

District 66 **Deborah J. Glick** (D,WF)
Citizens Union met with Glick, but did not evaluate the race because she faces no opponent.

District 75 **Richard Gottfried** (D,WF)*
Citizens Union met with Gottfried, but did not evaluate the race because he faces no opponent.

District 69 **Daniel J. O'Donnell** (D)

Candidate has responded to questionnaire; responses on page 15
Incumbent candidates in bold.

