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your opinions  
on these  
important  
issues



**TIME SENSITIVE**



# Make your voice heard!

Complete this survey and connect  
with **Brian Kolb** on **Twitter** and  
**Facebook** to discuss the latest news  
about your state government!

You can also take this survey  
on Assemblyman Brian Kolb's  
official Facebook page!



*To return, fold this panel out, add postage, secure open edge and mail back to Assemblyman Kolb.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Place  
First-Class  
Stamp  
Here

ASSEMBLY MINORITY LEADER BRIAN M. KOLB  
607 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 2  
GENEVA, NY 14456

# Dear Neighbor,

Summer 2012



Assembly Minority Leader  
**Brian M. Kolb**

933 Legislative  
Office Building  
Albany, NY 12248  
(518) 455-3751

607 W. Washington Street  
Suite 2  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 781-2030

[kolbb@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:kolbb@assembly.state.ny.us)



Our 2012 Legislative Session has concluded and I am pleased to report that it was a tremendous success! Working together, we built upon the many achievements from last year and again delivered real results for a better, more affordable New York. From continuing fiscal accountability and responsible budgeting, to making a down payment on Medicaid mandate relief, to protecting some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers, there are many bi-partisan achievements from this year's Session to be proud of.

The reforms I have supported and the policies I have championed have moved our State government toward greater accountability, transparency and responsiveness. While there is more to do and room for improvement, we are making progress for a better New York.

Please complete this Legislative Survey and share your suggestions on how we can keep moving New York forward. As always, individual responses will be kept strictly confidential: your e-mail and contact information will NEVER be sold or shared with a third party. You can also take this survey on my Facebook page.

Call me at (315) 781-2030 or e-mail me at [kolbb@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:kolbb@assembly.state.ny.us) if I may ever be of assistance. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Brian M. Kolb  
Assembly Minority Leader

## 2012 LEGISLATIVE SURVEY

Please answer the following questions and mail your completed survey to Brian Kolb at 607 W. Washington St., Suite 2, Geneva, NY 14456. You can also take this survey on-line by visiting Brian Kolb's Facebook page.

**1. Do you feel things in New York State are headed in the right direction or are they on the wrong track?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Right Direction      \_\_\_\_\_ Wrong Track

**2. How would you rate New York State's economy?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Good  
\_\_\_\_\_ Stronger and improving  
\_\_\_\_\_ Average  
\_\_\_\_\_ Weak and worsening  
\_\_\_\_\_ Poor

**3. The 2011 and 2012 Legislative Sessions saw many accomplishments and have been described as two of the most productive legislative years in New York's history. Which of Brian Kolb's 2011 and 2012 legislative achievements would you rate as the most important? (check all that apply)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Enacting a 2% property tax cap  
\_\_\_\_\_ Delivering Medicaid mandate relief  
\_\_\_\_\_ Closing \$13.5 billion in State Budget deficits  
\_\_\_\_\_ Passing two on-time State Budgets  
\_\_\_\_\_ Reducing government spending  
\_\_\_\_\_ Instituting ethics reform  
\_\_\_\_\_ Expanding the State's DNA Databank  
\_\_\_\_\_ Consolidating and merging State Agencies  
\_\_\_\_\_ Increasing State aid to local schools  
\_\_\_\_\_ Enacting pension reform

continued →

**4. In your view, what are the biggest obstacles to making New York’s economy more competitive, along with creating and retaining good-paying jobs? (check all that apply)**

- ☐ Taxes, fees and surcharges
- ☐ Price of energy
- ☐ Labor costs
- ☐ State regulations
- ☐ Albany bureaucracy
- ☐ Perception that New York is not business-friendly

**5. In your view, what are the best ways to grow New York’s economy, support private sector job creation and promote economic development? (check all that apply)**

- ☐ Support small businesses already operating in New York
- ☐ Offer targeted tax incentives to keep companies here
- ☐ Enact pro-growth economic policies and reduce government’s cost
- ☐ Leverage State funding to match private sector investment
- ☐ Provide tax credits to businesses that hire unemployed workers
- ☐ Cut bureaucratic red tape
- ☐ Build an “innovation economy” by investing in education, emphasizing vocational (career) skills training and encouraging entrepreneurship
- ☐ Transform State Agencies from roadblocks to job creation into partners that help private sector job creators and attract new investment

**6. Earlier this year, the State Legislature passed legislation that would enact a State Constitutional Amendment to expand casino gaming in New York State. Do you support an expansion of casino gaming?**

- ☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Undecided

**7. If casino gaming were expanded in New York State, how should the billions in new revenue expected to be generated be used? (check all that apply)**

- ☐ Increase education funding
- ☐ Deliver property tax relief
- ☐ Support road and bridge repair
- ☐ Enact tax relief for businesses
- ☐ Pay off State debt
- ☐ Provide unfunded mandate relief for local governments
- ☐ Expand public sector services and programs
- ☐ Put toward the State’s Rainy Day Fund for emergencies
- ☐ Provide public financing of legislative campaigns with tax dollars

8. In 2011, with Brian Kolb’s support, New York finally enacted a property tax cap that capped the growth of local property taxes at 2% or the rate of inflation – whichever is lower – to protect homeowners. One year later, how would you rate the effectiveness of New York’s property tax cap law in terms of controlling the growth of your local property tax levies?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Effective, the property tax cap is working
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ineffective, the property tax cap has not done enough to control property tax hikes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Undecided, more time is needed to determine the tax cap’s effectiveness

9. Going forward, what should be Albany’s top legislative priorities? (check all that apply)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Deliver real tax relief for families
- \_\_\_\_\_ Grow the private sector to create more jobs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide relief from Albany’s unfunded mandates on local governments, school districts and taxpayers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Strengthen New York’s economy so it is more competitive
- \_\_\_\_\_ Invest in education by providing more State aid to local schools
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reduce health care costs for small businesses and families
- \_\_\_\_\_ Continue reducing the size and cost of government
- \_\_\_\_\_ Enact a State Constitutional Amendment to establish an independent Legislative Redistricting Commission to take politics out of the redistricting process
- \_\_\_\_\_ Help local governments reduce their pension costs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand casino gaming

10. In one sentence (if possible), describe the ONE THING that, in your opinion, State government could do to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Which social media services, if any, do you use? (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn)

To help save taxpayer dollars, please provide an e-mail address if you would like to receive Albany Legislative Updates from Brian Kolb via e-mail:

If you would like to provide additional comments for Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb on any issue pertaining to New York State government, please print them in the space below: