

Citizens Union • Civic Commons
Common Cause NY
League of Women Voters of New York State
New York Public Interest Research Group
Open Plans • Reinvent Albany

Assemblymember Andrew Hevesi
Chairman, Committee on Oversight
70-50 Austin Street, Suite 110
Forest Hills, NY 11375

Assemblymember Steve Englebright
Chairman, Committee on
Governmental Operations
149 Main Street
East Setauket, NY 11733

Assemblymember George Latimer
Chairman, Commission on Government Administration
933 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 102
Mamaroneck, NY 10543

November 23, 2011

Re: Rescheduled hearing on the information revolution and state government.

Dear Assemblymembers Hevesi, Englebright and Latimer,

We write today to thank you for co-chairing the rescheduled Assembly hearing on "The implications of the information revolution for the state government." We understand that the hearing has been scheduled for early 2012, and we look forward to working with you to make it a big success.

We applaud the three of you, and the Assembly, for choosing to explore this important subject. The Purpose and the Selected Issues you published in the hearing notice are right on target. The incredibly rapid pace of technological innovation has created opportunities, and expectations, for New York State government that did not exist even a few years ago.

New Information Technology has vastly expanded the universe of people with easy access to government information, and to tools that allow them to easily communicate and interact with their government. It has also spawned principles and practices that are making government more open, accountable, responsive, collaborative --- and efficient.

We eagerly anticipated testifying at the hearing as originally scheduled on November 18, 2011. Naturally, we were disappointed that such an important hearing was postponed. However, whatever the reasons for the postponement, we look forward with enthusiasm to participating in the rescheduled hearing in January or February.

Thank you again for your efforts, we look to forward working with you and your staff to ensure the success of the upcoming hearing on New York State government and the information revolution.

Sincerely,

Rachael Fauss
Citizens Union

Gene Russianoff and Russ Haven
NY Public Interest Research Group

Phil Ashlock
Civic Commons

Frank Hebbert
Open Plans

Deanna Bitetti
Common Cause NY

John Kaehny
Reinvent Albany

Steve Romalewski
CUNY Mapping Center*

Betsey Swan
League of Women Voters NY State

* Organization listed for identification purpose only. Return addresses on back.

CC: Sheldon Silver, Speaker of the Assembly
Sabrina Ty, Deputy Secretary of Legislative Affairs
Jim Malatras, Deputy Secretary for Policy

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