



MICAH Z. KELLNER
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The Struggle for Marriage Equality Continues

Statement by NYS Assembly Member Micah Z. Kellner

“As a member of the LGBT caucus of New York State legislators, I share in the frustration of my community after today’s disappointing vote in the State Senate.

“I am extremely proud to be a co-sponsor of the marriage equality bill and to have been part of the Assembly’s historic vote, first in June of 2007, and twice since then, including early this morning as the Assembly passed the measure for the third time. I know that my vote for equality is one of the most important votes I will ever make as a lawmaker.

“Despite the tally of votes in the Senate, I believe the fact that the bill came to the floor for debate is a victory unto itself. Polls clearly show that New Yorkers believe in civil rights, oppose discrimination, and agree with marriage equality. No longer do New Yorkers need to wonder whether their Senator stands for the cause of equality or in defense of contemptuous bigotry. Now we know the yeas and the nays, and that knowledge brings us power. I believe that 2010 will bring in a new legislature, one that is truly for all the people of this great state.

“I want to thank Senator Tom Duane, and in my own house, Assembly Members Daniel O’Donnell, Deborah Glick, and Matt Titone, for their tremendous leadership and advocacy for the cause of equality.

“We *will* prevail. The drumbeat for marriage equality is loud and clear, and this is an issue whose time has come.”
