



Legislative Women's Caucus

New York State

NEWS FROM THE LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS

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Contact: Geraldine Humbert
518-455-4347
humbertg@nyassembly.gov

Assemblywoman Didi Barrett, LWC Chair, Announces Video in Lieu of Annual Caucus Dinner

Assemblywoman Didi Barrett, Chair of the bi-cameral, bi-partisan Legislative Women's Caucus (LWC), has announced that this year, a celebratory video has been produced in lieu of the caucus's annual end of session dinner. The annual New York State LWC dinner is traditionally a festive celebration attended by LWC members and women government partners such as lobbyists, state commissioners, the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General, the SUNY Chancellor, staff and more. The dinner is a time of camaraderie and recognition of the achievements of women legislators during the past session.

As COVID-19 took the world by storm and quickly changed the proceedings of this year's legislative session, the LWC had to cancel several planned events including the annual dinner. In this video, Assemblywoman Didi Barrett shares a warm [video message](#), not only to the LWC members, women leaders, and advocates who would have attended this year's reception, but to the public as well. Even in these challenging times, the Legislative Women's Caucus is "exploring and modeling how women govern and lead--how women #dopowerdifferently," said Assemblywoman Didi Barrett. "Many women leaders across the globe have been recognized for their effective and trusted handling of the COVID-19 pandemic."

The video highlights LWC events, the strength of the LWC, and the bond LWC members continue to build with each other as they advocate for the people of New York State. The video also honors and congratulates retiring members of the NYS Assembly and Senate. Retired member Assemblywoman Michele Titus, and retiring members Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, Senator Valmanette Montgomery, and Senator Betty Little are toasted in the video with remarks from Assembly Majority Leader Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes and Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins who highlight their accomplishments and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

This year, the [Women's History Month Display](#) recognized suffragists for the 100th anniversary of National Suffrage. The display went up in early March shortly before New York State began social distancing to reduce the spread of the COVID-19. Each LWC member shared a word to commemorate the suffragist of her choice.

The New York State Legislative Women's Caucus was founded in 1983 to enhance the status of all women in our state, encourage full participation by women and girls in government and politics, and provide a network of support for women legislators. In 2019, the caucus had 70 members, its highest ever.