

"Inside The State Capital"

By James L. Emery

With the holiday season upon us, it is a most appropriate time to look ahead to the New Year and what it has in store for us.

Certainly the fiscal situation of New York State will be a major item before the New York State Legislature. As every day passes, the case against higher taxes gets stronger and stronger. My mail is running 100 percent against the enactment of new taxes and therefore I plan to continue to oppose any new taxes. The economy and the people of this state demand that we curtail government spending, not increase it.

The 1976 regular legislative session is fast approaching and I thought you might be interested in some of the bills I will be introducing for that session. As you have done in 1975, I certainly hope that you will continue to correspond with me to let me know your opinions on my legislation as well as other state legislative matters.

A bill to increase the number of trustees of the Wadsworth Library in Geneseo from five to seven. This bill has been requested by the Library's Board of Trustees because they feel the increased number of trustees will better fulfill the needs of the Library.

— legislation authorizing the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue a special sticker to identify the motor vehicle of disabled and handicapped people so that these people might be provided certain parking privileges in designated areas.

— a bill to mandate that the City of New York institute the same tuition for its students as does the State University System. This would generate a sizeable amount of income for the City of New York as well as establish price parity in public higher education in New York State.

— a bill to remove the inequities in the unemployment insurance program which now charges employers, in certain cases, for unemployment payments to former employees who have applied for unemployment insurance benefits after they had worked for another employer such as a school which was exempt from unemployment insurance charges. It is certainly unjust to penalize the employer who had nothing to do with the persons lack of a job.

— legislation pertaining to the inability of a municipal hospital such as the Jones Memorial Hospital in Wellsville, to compete with other hospitals in securing adequate and necessary staffing. Some municipal hospitals are restricted by law as to the salary that can be paid to doctors. This puts these hospitals at such a disadvantage that many of them, including Jones Memorial, have been unable to hire the necessary personnel to staff the hospital.

As the final note in this column for 1975, I would like to wish all of you a happiest of holiday seasons. This past year has been a most difficult legislative year. I hope, however, that this holiday season will be a turning point for New York State. In the next two weeks we will be able to take a breather from all of our labors and to celebrate in hopes of a more joyous and prosperous future. May I wish that we all make it through the holiday season safely and that 1976 will be a most favorable year for all of us.

Appreciation

We, the Senior Citizens of Andover, wish to express our sincere thanks to the upper classmen of Andover Central School for the wonderful dinner cooked and served so graciously by them on December 19th.

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