

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to ask for your support for my upcoming election to the State Senate in District 37. As you may know, I am currently running in the Democratic primary to succeed Senator Loretta Weinberg.

New Jersey currently only has two funeral directors serving in the legislature, myself and Senator Richard Codey.

I grew up around funeral service as my family owns and operates the Vainieri Funeral Home in North Bergen. I have served as a licensed funeral director since 1980 and I am proud to carry on the family tradition with my brother, Anthony Jr.

As you know, we as funeral directors see families during the most difficult times in their lives. We see firsthand the fatal effects of suicide, addiction, domestic violence and more. It is through my work that I found my passion to advocate for so many of the issues that have guided my philosophy as a lawmaker.

Throughout my career in the legislature, I have done just that. I have fought for policies to better support individuals struggling with mental illness and addiction. I have also championed the passage of legislation to protect victims of domestic and sexual violence. Additionally, I have used my platform to fight for small businesses like ours.

As District 37's Assemblywoman, I have fought for increased funding through the Medicaid program for funerals, I have also worked directly with the New Jersey Funerals Association to advocate for fair policies around health insurance benefits for small employers.

As Assemblywoman, as a funeral director, and as the Past President of the Hudson County Funeral Directors Association, I have always used my voice to be your voice. I have always fought for small business owners and funeral directors.

Now, I am asking that you stand up and fight with me as I campaign for the State Senate.

<u>Can I count on your support for my election on June 8th?</u> Every dollar counts to help me work towards my fundraising goals.

Sincerely,

Valerie Vainieri Huttle