



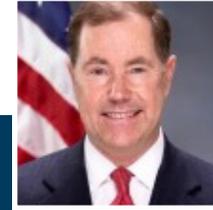
SEAN RYAN



Democratic

– Did not respond –

ED RATH



Republican, Conservative

New York State Senator - 61st District (2021-Present), Erie County Legislator (2008-2020), Alto Energy, Managing Member (2022-present). Alto Energy is an energy brokerage and supply consulting company.

edrathforsenate.com

My top priorities are to support and advance policies that make New York State more affordable for residents and businesses. I also believe we must provide real solutions that will help address the challenges that working families face. I will be strongly advocating for my legislation and similar bills to improve career pipelines and workforce training as well as expand childcare for working families.

ISSUES

BACKGROUND

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE

TOP PRIORITIES

Good Cause Eviction

OPPOSE

Banning Natural Gas hookups

OPPOSE

Single Payer Healthcare

OPPOSE

Extended Producer Responsibility

OPPOSE

Enacting a Climate Change Superfund

OPPOSE

Protecting Employers from Unemployment Insurance Rate Increases

SUPPORT

Repealing the Brownfield Cleanup Program's \$50,000 Application Fee

SUPPORT

Extending Aid to Offset the Benefits Cliff

SUPPORT

Expanding 0% corporate franchise tax to smaller manufacturers

SUPPORT



SEAN RYAN
Democratic

– Did not respond –

ISSUES

On energy and climate policy

On the largest impediment to growth in our region

On bridging the digital divide

On developing the next generation of workers

On why employers should support him

ED RATH
Republican, Conservative

The best way to ensure an affordable and reliable energy supply is to encourage and foster a diverse energy market. The pursuit of alternate fuels and expansion of green technology is important but should be done in a measured and economically feasible way. I'm supportive of requiring independent cost studies and full transparency of all proposals from the Climate Action Council, especially on proposals that mandate higher taxes and fees on businesses and consumers.

New York State has both an extremely high tax burden and a very rigid and excessive regulatory system. As a result, its business climate is generally ranked as one of the worst in the nation. Regulatory agencies need to be overhauled and refocused toward helping businesses succeed and navigate the system rather than rigid enforcement officers. We also need to reduce taxes on small businesses and cap unemployment taxes to protect businesses recovering from the pandemic. Strengthening New York's manufacturing sector is also critical. I support efforts to extend the zero-percent corporate franchise tax to small and medium sized manufacturers who are currently paying among the highest taxes in the nation. We need to create a regulatory and tax system that is competitive nationally.

Since my time as an Erie County Legislator, I have been an outspoken advocate for high-speed broadband expansion. The pandemic only further highlighted the need to bridge this digital divide. Access to reliable broadband is a major issue for too many communities. The lack of high-speed internet limits the ability to attract new businesses and for existing businesses to expand. I believe that we need to aggressively work to incentivize investment in broadband networks and repeal the fiber-optic installation fee. The broadband tax being lifted in this year's budget was a step in the right direction. The state needs to continue to reduce costs for broadband companies to lay the cable and infrastructure for affordable high-speed internet.

Investing in career training and readiness is critical. The state should focus on addressing the "middle skills gap" on a regional basis and aligning employers' needs and job seekers' skills with centralized apprenticeship programs. I currently sponsor legislation to reinvest in our State BOCES programs and believe that more attention needs to be paid to getting students involved in skills training programs. Childcare also remains a major barrier. I sponsor legislation to double the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit. While the state has aggressively pursued expanding subsidized care, more needs to be done to address the childcare crisis for middle class families who may not qualify for subsidized care but send a disproportionate amount of their income on childcare.

I believe that I am the only candidate running that has a strong record of working with businesses to support responsible economic development. I have also proven that I can be effective working across the aisle to do what is best for the region. The first bill I introduced helped create the "save our small business" grant program to assist businesses struggling during the pandemic. A similar program was included in the 2021 budget and has provided millions in relief to struggling small businesses.