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## **McDONALD ANNOUNCES RE-ELECTION ON FACEBOOK NO CAMPAIGNING UNTIL THE BUDGET IS DONE**

In a two-minute video posted to Facebook today, Assemblyman John McDonald (D-Cohoes) announced his re-election bid for the 108<sup>th</sup> Assembly district by pledging he wouldn't campaign for the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Democratic Primary until the state budget passes.

After speaking to the viewer about education aid, affordable housing and the opioid crisis, McDonald said "We've made progress, but we have much more to do . . . like passing the state budget. That's why I'm announcing my re-election campaign this way and not with some big event. There's too much work to do and representing you is my #1 priority.

"Experience matters. And, so does results," he said. "You won't see me campaigning until the budget is done because my responsibility, right now, is to you."

McDonald has represented the district since January of 2013. Prior to serving in the Assembly, McDonald was the Mayor of Cohoes for 13 years.

Among his accomplishments while in the Assembly are:

- Funding for crucial community projects such as \$250,000 to renovate Troy City Court, \$325,000 for Ball Fields in Arbor Hill, \$375,000 for park renovations and City Hall upgrades in Cohoes and \$250,000 for the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society's new building.
- Increasing education aid over \$7 billion the last seven years and allowed schools to restore programs while controlling property taxes.
- Creating an opioid treatment and hospital diversion demonstration program to fight the state's opioid crisis
- Working with organizations such as Empire Justice, the NY Preservation League and the New York Conference of Mayors to author and pass legislation that addresses vacant and abandoned buildings through a streamlined consumer-friendly foreclosure process. This new state law helps to prevent further blight in communities throughout the district and provides an opportunity for the next owner to revitalize the property and, in turn, the neighborhood.
- A host of bills that help local governments do their jobs and better utilize resources

McDonald also took the opportunity to remind people how important it is to participate in the 2020 Census "because everyone counts."