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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the latest edition of *The New York State Directory*. Published for 20 years by Walker's Research in California, the *New York State Directory* has been published by Grey House Publishing in Millerton, New York since 2004.

*The New York State Directory* is a comprehensive and easy-to-use guide to accessing public officials and private sector organizations and individuals who influence public policy in the state of New York. In this new edition, you will find all listings updated with current data, as well as additional listings in several sections, including Political Action Committees and Lobbyists. The four-color Demographic Map section offers data on congressional districts, employment and education levels, income distribution, and ethnic and racial population density.

**Section One** of *The New York State Directory* begins with an introduction to various offices and officers that form the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the New York state government. This section includes important information on all New York State legislators and congressional representatives, key committee assignments, and staff rosters.

**Section Two** comprises twenty-five chapters covering the most significant public policy issue areas from Agriculture to Veterans & Military. Each chapter identifies the state, local, and federal agencies and officials that formulate or implement policy. At the end of each chapter is a list of private sector experts and advocates who influence the policy process.

**Section Three** provides public information on state and local government, plus comprehensive sections on political party officials, lobbyists, political action committees, chambers of commerce, print and electronic media, colleges, universities, school districts and a financial plan overview that includes numbers from 2005 to 2011.

In addition, you'll find a comprehensive **Biographies** section that includes detailed biographical sketches of all 247 key state officials, including US Senators and House Representatives. Individual e-mail addresses make it easy to contact these influential individuals. Following the Biographies are four indexes and 4-color **Demographic Maps**.

Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that information in *The New York State Directory* is as easily accessible and as comprehensive as possible. Organizational and personnel entries in the *Directory* were updated before publication; follow-up verifications and editorial changes were made as late as June 2007. Continuing assistance and cooperation from state, regional, county, municipal, and federal officials and staff have helped make *The New York State Directory* a unique and valuable resource. We are grateful to these individuals and the private sector sources listed for their generous contributions of time and insight.

In addition to *The New York State Directory*, Grey House offers a companion volume -- *Profiles of New York State*. This comprehensive volume provides demographic, economic, religious, geographic and historical detail on the more than 2,300 counties and place names that make up New York state. *Profiles of New York State* includes chapters on Education, Ancestry, Hispanic and Asian Populations, Weather and Maps, with comparative statistics and rankings.

— The Editors