



****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

**STATEMENT FROM
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF THE SOUTHERN TIER AND FINGER LAKES**

**REGARDING STATE CONFERENCE LEADER INCLUSION IN POLICY DISCUSSIONS
AND BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS**

Diverse voices make better policy. Leaders in Albany have expanded the three-person budget negotiation circle to add Independent Democratic Conference Leader Jeff Klein.

We urge the four people now in the room to invite in the other two Legislative leaders: Senate Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and Assembly Republican Conference Leader Brian Kolb.

We are a fourteen-county-wide organization dedicated to raising the voice of upstate women. We live and work across a vast area of New York State that is up to seven hours from New York City, and three or more hours from Albany.

We urge inclusion of these duly-elected representatives of the 10 million New Yorkers who otherwise have no voice in the room.

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