



SD-54: Paloma Capanna - A Great Challenger With A Great Plan

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At the DRC convention and afterwards, I had a few people tell me about [Paloma Capanna](#). Paloma is running for New York State Senate in the [54th Senate District](#). Not only did they tell me about her, but they all said the same thing: She was very impressive.

I missed the event this morning where Paloma spoke but several people told me that she spoke passionately and intelligently about children and poverty. In one person's words, it was very "moving."

I received an e-mail from supporters of Paloma's and readers of The Albany Project who said that I should check out Paloma when I was there. Believe me, she left a mark on the DRC. There is no question about it.

When I checked out [her website](#), the message on the front page hits you in the face.

You talked, and we listened. You made health insurance the number one issue for our campaign to solve, and we've designed a program: "Universal New York." It's time for universal health insurance, available and affordable to all.

No more co-pays. No more deductibles. Your choice of providers. Your doctor's choice of prescriptions. A local advocate you know on a first name basis, if you or your doctor run into any problems with coverage or reimbursement.

Your cost for state-administered health insurance will be reduced by expanding the pool of people who are covered through a single plan and by eliminating private insurance profits. Your cost will come down even further by eliminating bad debt/free care that drives up costs of those who are paying. More importantly, your quality of care goes up when doctors and hospitals regain the 30% of their time that is lost to billing paperwork.

New York already offers more than twenty, different health insurance programs for nearly everyone, except the working middle class. In fact, 80% of the uninsured are employed. We can afford medical insurance. What we can't afford is the bill from private medical insurance companies.

It all started with our pledge for campaign finance reform to take the big money out of Albany. We're ready to do battle with big insurance and pharmaceutical companies, if that's what it takes. If you want meaningful policy change, it's time for you to support a campaign of The People, by The People, and for The People. Join the campaign where the average individual contribution is \$25 and almost 400 people have contributed to Change-for-Change!

It's your democracy. Make it what you know it should be.

Paloma is a progressive Democrat. This is someone we should be supporting. Kudos to those who are already supporting her and I hope that many more throughout the state jump on her bandwagon. Let's make Paloma the next state senator in SD-54. **ON THE WEB:** [Contribute to Capanna for Senate](#).