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SD-54: Paloma Capanna... Need I Say More?

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When I authored the first of [my weekly New York State Senate power rankings](#) yesterday, I listed ten races that I think are top targets (or seats we need to keep) to ensure a Democratic majority beginning in 2009.

Judging by my e-mail inbox this morning, [Paloma Capanna](#) should have been number one.

I received e-mails from Capanna supporters from the 54th Senate District and from a supporter of Paloma's campaign from the western end of the state who all support Paloma and speak of the great things she is doing in the 54th. I even received an e-mail from Paloma Capanna, giving the rundown of what her campaign is all about and what she is talking about in the district.

I [wrote about Paloma](#) after returning from the [New York State Democratic Rural Conference convention](#) in April. A lot of people - both in the district and outside of it - are impressed by her. I count myself as one of those people. She is as genuine as it gets. She cares about her constituents, working class people of the 54th and issues like health care and poverty. When it comes to those issues, she is one of the best. She is very articulate and will be a formidable opponent for [Sen. Michael Nozzolio](#), who has never been challenged in any election during his Senate career - until now.