Dear Assemblywoman Lifton,

After trying and failing to find online roll-call vote information for a vote in the New York State Assembly, I was disturbed to find that there also appears to be no way to find roll call vote information on the New York State Senate web site. This is about the most basic information that voters need to have available in order to be informed about how we're being represented in Albany.

Am I just missing it, or is this information not considered important enough to share with the public? The Ithaca Journal and other papers do occasionally publish "How they voted in Albany" pieces, but it doesn't appear to be a regular feature. Calling or writing a legislator all the time to find out how they voted is both inefficient and discouraging.

Other legislative bodies, notably the United States Congress, appear to publish such information immediately and keep it available.

See, for example:

   http://thomas.loc.gov/home/rollcallvotes.html

Could the Senate please join in sharing this basic information?

   Sincerely,

   Simon St.Laurent
   http://livingindryden.org/

P.S. As usual, please consider this letter and any response to it public.