

*Washington, DC* - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today released the following statement regarding Governor Paterson's selection of Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand to fill the U.S. Senate seat that was recently vacated by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

"I congratulate Kirsten Gillibrand on being chosen as the next U.S. Senator from New York. I have enjoyed getting to know her over the past several years and look forward to working with her to help strengthen our economy and improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers and Americans.

"Becoming a member of the U.S. Senate is an extraordinary honor and I wish Kirsten Gillibrand the very best in her new role. There is a lot of work to be done and I expect and know that she will do her very best to represent all New Yorkers as effectively as possible."