

## **ANNOUNCEMENT SPEECH OF LISA BHIMANI FOR NEW JERSEY STATE ASSEMBLY, 25TH DISTRICT**

I'm Lisa Bhimani and I'm proud to say that Darcy and I are running for State Assembly.

I'd like to start by thanking first all our supporters who are here today, because this is about you. Because of your strength, conviction and hard work, we elected Mikie Sherrill and Tom Malinowski to Congress. You knew that our values weren't represented in Congress and you took it upon yourselves to bring change.

You wanted to make sure that you had a representative who stood up for you and what you care about—

someone who would advocate to return the SALT deduction to NJ residents;  
someone who would fight for the Gateway Tunnel Project; someone who would work to assure all Americans have access to affordable health care;  
someone who would advocate for common sense gun safety legislation; someone who promised to work across the aisle.

You knew you couldn't rest and get back to living your life until you had real representation in Congress.

We are now faced with a similar situation in our State Legislature and that's why I'm running for Assembly. We want members of our Legislature to stand up for our values.

We want our highest-in-the nation property taxes reduced and we are tired of politicians paying lip service to this issue and doing nothing about it once elected.

We want to continue the success we have had in NJ with the Affordable Care Act, where premiums dropped 9% for 2019—making our premiums the 3rd lowest in the entire country.

Our economy, and the value of our homes, depend on good infrastructure, especially mass transit in and out of New York. NYC is expected to add 300,000 jobs over the next 10 years. We want those new hires to purchase homes in our area, eat in our lovely restaurants, and join our communities. We need to invest in our infrastructure and assure that the Gateway Tunnel project continues forward.

We believe that, as Americans we are granted broad freedoms. We believe adults can marry who they want. And that a woman gets to choose if and when to start her family.

I hope you are as excited as I am to have Darcy Draeger on the ticket, because this is the kind of representation we both want to bring to our state government for you.

Today we are joined by Lisa Mandelblatt representing the Malinowski campaign, and by the amazing Mikie Sherrill herself. Darcy and I are honored to have their support.

Over the coming year we look forward to talking with you about these issues and ways to move forward. Together we will continue to build a strong, healthy, and vigorous NJ for our businesses and our families.