

Talking Points: 'No Condoms as Evidence' Bill! Contacting Your Representatives

- 1) Find your State Senator and Assembly Member. Go to http://prototype.nytimes.com/represent.
 - a. Are they on the Codes Committee? Click for members in the <u>Senate</u> and the <u>Assembly</u>.
 - b. Are they a Sponsor of the bill? Click for sponsors in <u>Senate</u> and <u>Assembly</u>.
- **2) Call their Albany office.** Ask to speak with someone about Bill A10893/S01289A, concerning use of condoms as evidence.
- 3) Tell the staff-member your name, what organization you represent, and if you live or work in the district.
- 4) If your Senator or Assembly Member is a sponsor of Bill A10893/S01289A, thank them for their support and let them know why this matters to you, your organization or community.
- 5) If your Senator or Assembly Member is NOT a sponsor or supporter of the bill, tell the staff-member you are calling to ask the Senator to vote YES on Bill A10893/S01289A in the Codes Committee or on the Floor.

TALKING POINTS

- Explain that the bill will prevent the use of condoms as evidence of prostitution in criminal and civil court.
- The bill promotes public health by making sure everyone can carry condoms without worrying it could lead to arrest or conviction.
- Condoms are regularly confiscated by police, leading to higher risk for pregnancy, HIV, and STD's among vulnerable populations. Sex workers fear arrest if they carry over a certain number of condoms.
- This impacts public health initiatives promoting condom use and distributing condoms to at-risk populations.
- This bill has a broad list of supporters, including the Center for Constitutional Rights, the Anti-Violence Project, NYCLU, the LGBT Center, and many other public health organizations.
- Tell your representative why this matters to you, your organization or community.
- End by asking the Senator to vote YES on Bill A10893/S01289A in the Codes Committee or on the Floor.