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**Orthodox Union Legislative & Policy Issues Survey  
 New York 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (Special Election September 2011)**

	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1. For over 15 years since the passage of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995, the State Department has refused to bow to the will of Congress and the American people and move the US Embassy to Israel to Jerusalem, as required by law. Do you support the Jerusalem Embassy and Recognition Act of 2011 (HR 1006) which will ensure the embassy is moved immediately?	Yes		I will co-sponsor this bill. As I wrote in my position paper on Israel, this will be one of my first pieces of legislation I will co-sponsor.
2. Unfortunately, in the wake of September 11, 2001, many nonprofits - and Jewish institutions foremost among them - have seen their security needs, and the associated costs, skyrocket. The Congress and both the Bush and Obama administrations have supported a modest grant program, the NonProfit Security Grant Program, administered by DHS to help vulnerable and cash strapped nonprofits "target harden" their facilities. Do you support continuing and expanding this program?	Yes.		
3. Energy costs have also skyrocketed in recent years and nonprofits are especially likely to have older buildings and older, less efficient equipment and appliances. Many states have programs that assist nonprofits, including houses of worship and parochial schools, on an equal basis with homeowners or businesses to retrofit their facilities. Do you support a similar federal program?	Yes		
4. Several states have tax credits or deductions to assist with the cost of K-12 education, whether public or private. Would you support federal tax policies that provide deductions or credits to parents who pay for K-12 educational expenses out of pocket?	Yes		



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5. Several states have tax credit programs for donations made by businesses or individuals to both public and nonpublic schools. Do you support a federal credit along these lines?			I am open to it.
6. Several states, including New York, have enacted laws to protect Sabbath observant and other religiously observant workers in the workplace. There is, unfortunately, no federal legislation on this and many are forced to choose between their faith and their livelihood. Would you support legislation to protect religious observance regarding time off for the Sabbath/holidays and/or wearing a kipa, beard etc?	Yes		While I was in the City Council, I introduced and passed legislation to make it illegal to discriminate those with religious garb in all uniform agencies.
7. There is a long tradition in the United States of “conscience clause” exemptions from aspects of certain laws, and particularly, for religious organizations, houses of worship and individuals to ensure they are able to practice their faith and still remain open to receiving government services, grants & programs. Do you support such exemptions tailored to help religious faith with minimal impact on others?	Yes		
8. Iran continues its efforts to build or acquire nuclear weapons, despite the enactment of several divestment and sanctions legislation both here in the US and internationally. Do you support increased efforts to isolate Iran and deny them the ability to acquire nuclear weapons? Do you support the Iran Transparency and Accountability Act?	Yes		
9. Do you support efforts to ensure special education students - in any school - are receiving the services they need and deserve? What specific actions would you take relating to IDEA or ESEA reauthorization regarding this?	Yes		I have a long and strong record on fighting for this population on a City and State level. I initiated the Autism Initiative. I will continue my advocacy for this in Congress.