

RAISE THE AGE Call Script

Hello,

My name is _____, I'm a constituent of Senator _____.

I am calling today to urge you to join Governor Cuomo and Senate Democrats in raising the age of responsibility to 18, ensuring 16 and 17 year olds stay out of Rikers, and get their cases heard in family court, not criminal court. It's time our kids are treated like kids.

Not one more 16 or 17 year old should suffer injury, assault or worse because they're housed in an adult criminal facility like Rikers. Not one more 16 or 17 year old should have a lifelong criminal record because of a felony. Senate Republicans and the IDC are offering up the same watered down rhetoric - word for word - that doesn't go far enough to protect our children. If you really want to stop locking up kids, why don't you just do it?

You can add an anecdote about a personal experience with the criminal justice system or how you've been moved by the stories of others, like Kalief Browder.

I will be paying close attention to the release of the State Budget on April 1st and I will remember the IDC's role (For Felder: "Senator Felder's role") if the Republicans succeed in keeping New Yorkers from voting.

As well, I will keep your position in mind when I cast my vote during the next election. New Yorkers are paying attention to the budget negotiations and we see the Senator's true colors. Talk is cheap, the Senator's actions speak louder than words.

Thank you for your time.

**TRUE
BLUE
NY**