

Devra Nusbaum

Devra Nusbaum is counsel to New York State Assemblymember Susan John (A.D.131-Rochester) who chairs the Assembly Standing Committee on Labor. As counsel, she researches, develops and manages legislation about labor law, health care, courts and procedural law, education and family law. She also analyzes and reports about the state budget, federal legislation and policies and state agency regulations. Before Devra joined the Assemblymember's office, she served for ten years as the executive director and counsel for the Legislative Women's Caucus of New York State, a bi-partisan organization of all women elected to the New York State Assembly and Senate. At the Caucus she led initiatives to research and develop public policies about a wide range of women's issues including rights and equity in the workplace, family-medical leave, child care, women's health care and welfare reform. Her efforts established the Caucus as an information resource for legislators and their constituents. Devra also facilitated meetings of government and business leaders across the U.S. about new ideas for women's health care. Devra often speaks to government, community and professional organizations about the legislative process and lobbying. For the League of Women Voters, she created a comprehensive training program for constituents statewide to improve advocacy skills and develop strategies for lobbying state government. She has guest lectured at the State University of New York and its Rockefeller Center for Graduate Studies. Devra earned a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law and is licensed to practice in New York State. She studied at the United Nations, receiving an M.S in Sociology from Long Island University. She also holds a B.A. in Japanese and Russian languages from Antioch College. Prior to her work at the New York State Legislature, Devra was a management consultant at Coopers & Lybrand, an attorney for family law at Brooklyn Legal Services and director of the Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy. In addition, she researched language studies policies for the Modern Language Association and President Jimmy Carter's Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies.