



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE

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Ronnie Lowenstein Reappointed IBO Director;

Unanimous Vote by de Blasio, Liu, Marshall, and Quinn

IBO is pleased to announce that Ronnie Lowenstein has been reappointed as Director of the New York City Independent Budget Office. Ms. Lowenstein has been with IBO since its inception in 1996.

The selection was based on the unanimous recommendation by IBO's Advisory Board, which is composed of 10 experts on budget and public policy, chaired by David R. Jones, president of the Community Service Society of New York. Under the New York City Charter, the Advisory Board recommends candidates for the director to a committee made up of four elected officials: Public Advocate Bill de Blasio, Comptroller John C. Liu, Queens Borough President Helen Marshall (representing all five borough presidents), and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn (representing the Council). The unique appointment process is designed to maintain IBO's political independence. The elected officials unanimously voted to appoint Ms. Lowenstein, who will serve a four-year term.

"I am pleased and excited to be reappointed," said Ronnie Lowenstein. "And I'm especially grateful to be able to continue working with IBO's dedicated and talented staff."

"New Yorkers are in good hands with Ronnie Lowenstein continuing as director of the Independent Budget Office," said Public Advocate Bill de Blasio. "Her leadership is critical as we steer New York City through the difficult years that lie ahead of us. I look forward to working with her to ensure the public has the best possible information about our city's finances."

Comptroller Liu commented on Lowenstein's reappointment: "I am delighted that Ronnie Lowenstein will continue as director of the IBO. She has been with the IBO since its inception and still carries the organization with exceptional energy and professionalism."

Borough President Marshall added, “I am delighted to support the reappointment of Ronnie Lowenstein. She has been a talented director, who will continue to use her skills to help navigate our city’s course for the future. As a member of the Special Appointing Committee, I congratulate her and wish her well as she continues in her post.”

“I congratulate Ronnie on her reappointment as NYC Independent Budget director,” Speaker Christine C. Quinn said. “The Council looks forward to IBO’s continuing contribution to informing City Council Members and the public on important issues, particularly in these challenging fiscal times.”

Advisory Board Chair David R. Jones said, “We are uniformly delighted in our choice of Ronnie Lowenstein. Under her able leadership, IBO has developed an unimpeachable reputation for integrity. We are very fortunate to have someone of her caliber leading the agency, a real boon to the City of New York.”

Ms. Lowenstein has served as director of IBO since 2000. This will be her third full term in that role. Before joining IBO, she was an economist in the Domestic Research Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and taught economics at Barnard College. She holds a Ph.D. in economics from Columbia University and B.A. from Guilford College. A Manhattan resident, she is married to Ken Lowenstein, an attorney, and has two children, Jeff and Marc.