

**\*SUPPORT OF NY STATE LEGISLATION TO BAN  
THE SALE, TRADING, POSSESSION & DISTRIBUTION OF SHARK FINS.**

The Downtown Independent Democrats (DID) strongly support NY State legislation to ban the sale, trading, possession and distribution of shark fins.

Shark fin soup is the leading cause of species of sharks being on the brink of extinction and removing a key ecosystem predator from the ecosystem.

We commend the sponsors of the bill, Assemblymembers Alan Maisel, Grace Meng and Linda Rosenthal.

In particular, it is noted that Assemblymember Meng is the daughter of immigrants who worked in and owned Chinese restaurants. She notes that this is a huge adjustment for the Asian community she represents, but it is important to be responsible citizens.

We urge both the NY State Senate and Assembly to pass this legislation. California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington have enacted bans and legislation is pending in Florida, Illinois, Maryland and Virginia.

\*See NY Times article by Elizabeth Rosenthal Feb 22, 2012:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/22/nyregion/bill-in-albany-would-ban-sale-of-shark-fins.html?ref=science>)

February 22, 2012

[info@didnyc.org](mailto:info@didnyc.org)