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**Statement of Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick
At the Rally for the Tenants of 47 East Third Street**

April 14, 2007

I am proud to join in solidarity with the tenants of 47 East Third Street in their fight to stay in their homes. The landlords' cruel proposal to remove the tenants of all 15 units in this building must be strongly opposed. I am grateful to GOLES and Cooper Square Committee for organizing this rally and for their contribution to this important cause.

The actions that the landlords have proposed to remove all of this building's tenants will uproot families and harm the neighborhood and the City. If the landlords' plan is not stopped, tenants will lose their homes in the neighborhood that they love and the City's already dwindling supply of affordable housing will lose even more needed units. Rent-regulated housing is a crucial element in preserving diverse neighborhoods such as the Lower East Side. I can not fathom how the owners would believe that it is acceptable to buy a rent-regulated building with 15 homes only to try and turn it into a mansion for just one family. The argument by the landlords that it is their property and they can do with it as they please ignores the fact that the law envisioned some restraints on that prerogative.

Recently, along with more than 25 of my colleagues in the City and State Legislatures, I sent a letter to New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo about the dreadful Appellate Division ruling concerning 47 East Third Street. I was heartened by the strong support that the tenants of 47 East Third Street received from my colleagues across the city. Leaders in the fight for affordable housing recognize that what happens here will affect tenants and neighborhoods throughout the city.

Thank you all for coming out to this rally and for your commitment to affordable housing. I will continue to fight for the tenants of 47 East Third Street and for Affordable Housing in New York City. We will not give up this fight.