



# New York State Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar



February 24th, 2021

## **Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar is Appointed by Speaker Heastie to Chair the Subcommittee on Diversity in Law**

Speaker Carl Heastie Appoints Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar to Chair the Subcommittee on Diversity in Law.

Speaker Carl E. Heastie has appointed Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar as Chair of the Subcommittee on Diversity in Law. This newly created Subcommittee is part of the influential Assembly Judiciary Committee.

"I'm happy to announce that Assemblymember Rajkumar will serve as chair of the Subcommittee on Diversity in Law," Speaker Heastie said. "The Assembly Majority is committed to balancing the tilted scales of justice, and part of that is ensuring that our criminal justice system reflects the diverse state it serves. Assemblymember Rajkumar's work throughout her career and her commitment to diversity in our legal system will be an asset to the subcommittee and to New York State."

Assemblyman Chuck Lavine, Chair of the Judiciary Committee, stated: "Already recognized as an individual who has committed herself to fighting for human rights, Assemblymember Rajkumar's appointment as Chair of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Diversity in Law is yet another historic first. Assemblymember Rajkumar is the first Chair of this critically significant Subcommittee which will advance justice and equity in New York. Our State has a proud history of leadership in the national battle for human rights and Assemblymember Rajkumar's appointment is another significant step in that direction.

"Assemblywoman Rajkumar said: "I am honored and humbled by this appointment. As Chair of this committee, I will focus on access to justice for minority voices in our courtrooms, on diversity in the judiciary, and on creating a pipeline of young, diverse leaders in the state's legal system."

Assemblywoman Rajkumar formerly practiced civil rights law, and has stood up for the vulnerable and the disenfranchised throughout her career. She litigated class action cases on behalf of workers, tenants and women at a national public interest law firm. She also focused on combating corporate fraud and excess in qui tam suits against multinational corporations, saving millions in taxpayer dollars. In 2015 and 2016 she was selected to Super Lawyers' New York-Metro Rising Stars List. In 2017, she built and led the New York State Liberty Defense Project, a first-in-the-nation multi-million dollar state project to assist immigrants across the state with legal counsel. She is a graduate of Stanford Law School.