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## **Hizzoner says incumbents are in trouble**

RYE BROOK – Business owners, large and small, joined former New York City Mayor Ed Koch and the Westchester County Association in calling Albany lawmakers to action and to make changes in the state government, Thursday evening.

Koch feels that keys to getting government back on track are to get accurate redistricting, an expansion of ethics and a balanced budget created under generally accepted accounting principles. “It means basically an honest budget,” said Koch.

“What is most interesting, is that we have a chance of prevailing this year,” he said, “The reason is this. This is the year where every incumbent is part of the endangered species. And what’s key here is, they know it.”

Koch doesn't feel that that the lawmakers in Albany are worried about the taxpayers in New York but “feeding at the public trough is all they care about.” He does concede that there are some good lawmakers in the state government but “the good aren't good enough and the bad are evil.”

“But the truth is there are good people up there and we have to distinguish,” said Koch. “Now how do you distinguish? We have to get them to sign, in blood, that they are going to do certain things.”

Al DelBello, WCA chairman and former lieutenant governor, said that Westchester County is finding it “awfully hard to continue doing business and employ people.” He said, “a million and a half people left this state in the last seven years” and with that number, “\$4.3 billion in taxes.” Something doesn't make sense in the state, he said.