

[First New York Defense Working Group meeting hosted by Rep. Richard Hanna](#)

By Robert Harding  
The Citizen

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Rep. Richard Hanna, R-Barneveld, and Rep. Tim Bishop, a New York Democrat, hosted the first meeting of the New York Defense Working Group on Wednesday.

Most of New York's congressional delegation was represented at the meeting, according to Hanna's office. In addition to Bishop and Hanna, Rep. Kathy Hochul and Rep. Bob Turner attended, and staff members from other representatives were present.

The goal of the group is to promote and protect New York's military facilities.

The meeting featured guest speaker Major General Patrick Murphy, the Adjutant General of New York. According to a news release, Murphy discussed the current status of the New York National Guard and challenges the Guard could face in the future.

Hanna was happy with the group's first meeting.

"We need to work together as a delegation to ensure that New York's military assets are not unduly and negatively impacted," Hanna said. "I'm working to ensure the operations in Rome

and elsewhere in New York are not only preserved but bolstered and strengthened. Today's meeting was just the beginning of a long-term, proactive effort."

Bishop was also happy with the turnout, and thanked Murphy for coming to speak to the group.

"General Murphy gave a compelling presentation on the value of the New York National Guard and Air National Guard both to America's defense readiness and our local communities," Bishop said. "As a result, the New York Defense Working Group is now better prepared to dig in and fight on behalf of New York's military installations and the brave men and women who serve our state and nation."

Bishop and Hanna teamed up in October to announce the formation of the group.

Hanna represents the 24th Congressional District which includes Auburn and most of Cayuga County.