

## Bronx 32nd Senate District: Running from Both Sides of the Fence

by Gotham Gazette Staff  
Monday, November 03, 2008 12:00 AM -

---

Since coming to the State Senate in 1992, [Ruben Diaz Sr.](#) has compiled an unusual profile, which shows up in the fact he appears on both the Democratic and Republican party lies o Tuesday, A reverend who served briefly in the City Council, Diaz said he conducted the first Pentecostal service ever inside City Hall and has been an outspoken [opponent of abortion](#) and same-sex marriage. However, Diaz has [said](#), " When it comes to education, health, job protection, social services, I am one of the best Democrats you could find."

In July he said he would not say whether, if re-elected, he would ally with Democrats or Republicans in the Senate, a scenario that could give sleepless nights to party leaders from both sides as they fight for control of the body. His son, Ruben Diaz Jr., serves in the State Assembly -- as a Democrat.

Little information was available on the elder Diaz's Conservative opponent, William McDonagh.

Diaz's most recent [campaign filing](#) showed him with \$33,220. McDonagh showed no contributions.

The district includes parts of Castle Hill, Clason Point, Hunts Point, Longwood, Melrose, Morrisania, Parkchester, Pelham Parkway, Soundview and Union Port.

Â