



Assemblyman

# Phil Ramos



Spring 2014

## Community News

Assemblyman Phil Ramos has been working hard for Suffolk County families—both in Albany and in the district. Here's a look at what he's been working on.

## Ramos fighting to increase the minimum wage

Assemblyman Phil Ramos joined community organizers, Make the Road New York and rallied alongside advocates for low-income Long Islanders in support of a measure that would allow cities and counties to supplement the state minimum wage.

Currently, Assemblyman Ramos is a prime sponsor of Assembly bill A.8343 which would raise the statutory minimum wage from \$8.00 to \$9.00 per hour on and after December 31, 2014, and provide that on each December 31 thereafter the rate shall be indexed to inflation. The bill recently passed the Assembly Labor and Ways and Means Committees and goes to the Assembly floor next for a vote.

“A higher minimum wage helps everyone, from workers to businesses,” Assemblyman Ramos said. “Putting more money into the pockets of those most likely to spend it increases demand for products, and in turn, jobs. Statistics back up this claim. Ten states already index their minimum wage to inflation, and those states have reported positive economic results—high rates of growth in companies, job creation, and payroll. Higher, fairer wages also result in better worker productivity and less worker turnover.”

• **A higher minimum wage helps everyone, from workers to businesses... Putting more money into the pockets of those most likely to spend it increases demand for products, and in turn, jobs...**

– Assemblyman Ramos



**If you have a problem, question, or concern, Assemblyman Ramos wants to hear from you. Contact our office at 435-3214, or at [ramosp@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:ramosp@assembly.state.ny.us) and see how we can be of assistance.**

# Ramos standing up for the health and safety of our community

*Illegal dumping in our parks and neighborhoods is atrocious*



Assemblyman Phil Ramos speaks with State Attorney General Schneiderman who came out to Brentwood to assess the situation of illegal dumping of toxic waste at Roberto Clement Park.

Assemblyman Ramos has called on the State Department of Health to conduct an investigation into the possible risks associated with the illegally dumped hazardous materials. In addition, Assemblyman Ramos has contacted the state comptroller to investigate whether Day Tree or any related companies have any contracts with the state and to consider putting a hold on all funds until the investigation is over.

## 2014 State Budget

*Assemblyman Ramos works to save money for Suffolk families*

*Assemblyman Ramos fought to pass a final state budget that makes life a little more affordable for working families.*

### **Lowers families' cost of living**

- Provides property tax relief in the form of rebate checks for homeowners and tax credits for renters
- Cuts an energy tax on your utility bill
- Reduces New York's estate tax to ensure your estate goes to loved ones, not the tax collector

### **Protects your health**

- Expands eligibility for the **Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC)** program to help lower the cost of prescription medications
- Protects you from surprise medical bills if you are unknowingly treated by an out-of-network doctor
- Ensures that you won't lose your life savings if you have an ill spouse who needs long-term care



## Lower your energy costs with REAP

PSEG Long Island's Residential Energy Affordability Partnership (REAP) program can help income-eligible customers save energy and lower their electric bills.

Eligible customers would have a REAP technician conduct a home survey. The technician may install energy-saving measures in your home at no cost to you. In addition, they will teach you how to use less energy and they will inspect your electric appliances, lighting, heating system, and other energy consuming equipment.

For more information, you can contact PSEG at 800-490-0025 or visit their website at <https://www.psegliny.com/page.cfm/Home/Customerservice/FinancialAssistancePrograms/REAP>. You can also stop by Assemblyman Ramos' district office "open house" on Saturday, June 21st where a PSEG representative will be on hand to discuss the REAP program.

## Around the Community



### Nat Geo Mundo Winner

Assemblyman Ramos realizes that travel provides diverse life experiences and a greater appreciation for the differences and similarities that exist between various cultures. That is why this past fall, Assemblyman Ramos brought together National Geographic and Cablevision to sponsor a local essay contest in Brentwood where the winner would receive an all-expenses paid educational trip to their choice of 30 different countries.

In April the winner was announced. Brentwood High School student Xavier Cornejo was the winner of the Nat Geo Mundo World Explorer essay contest. Xavier will take an all-expense paid two-week educational journey to Brazil.

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# Assemblyman Phil Ramos'

## DISTRICT OFFICE OPEN HOUSE

Kick off the first day of summer by stopping by our district office "Open House" on Saturday, June 21st from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Saturday  
June 21**  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
1010 Suffolk Avenue  
Brentwood



People will have the chance to:

- Learn how they can lower their energy costs with a representative from PSEG
- Find unclaimed funds through the state comptroller's office of unclaimed funds
- Pick up a Summer Reading brochure and get kids to read over the summer

If you have questions about this event or any other community issue please call Assemblyman Ramos' office at 631-435-3214.

## Around the Community



### Dominican Republic Independence Day

The Assembly recently passed a resolution to honor the 170th anniversary of the Dominican Republic Independence Day. More than a half-million people with Dominican roots—either by birth or ancestry—live in New York State. Assemblyman Ramos recently presented a copy of the resolution to Julio Paulino and local Dominican business leaders to recognize the vibrancy and diversity the Dominican community brings to our district and the State of New York.



### 2014 Women's History Celebration

Assemblyman Phil Ramos (left) hosted his 3rd annual celebration of National Women's History Month. Members of the Bay Shore, Brentwood, and Central Islip communities came together at the YMCA Boulton Center to share in the struggles and accomplishments of the women in their lives. Students from each of the local high schools performed original poetry/spoken word for the crowd through the direction of Herstory Writers Workshop.



### HealthFirst Community Service Recognition

Assemblyman Phil Ramos honored various community leaders at his second HealthFirst event. This year's event focused on community service. Among those honored were a group of Brentwood high school students who participated in the Relay for Life project. The event, coordinated by BHS students Mecca Tricoche and Sumaiya Chowdhury, raised over \$30,000 for cancer research.



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### Assembly Update

Tune in to Assemblyman Ramos' weekly television show **Friday nights at 8:30 p.m.** on Cablevision channel 18.