



# Assemblywoman **Nily Rozic**



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Dear Neighbor:

*This year, we have made progress to be proud of in providing for middle and working class families, strengthening our economy, investing in education, and expanding social justice and opportunity. Whether it was securing vital funding for transit riders, saving middle school gifted & talented seats, expanding the eligibility of EPIC and SCRIE for seniors, enrolling hundreds of homeowners in the STAR rebate program, or pushing the Women's Equality Act, **I am proud of the work that we have accomplished. We have a community that is strong, increasingly diverse, and thriving.***

*Personally, I am extremely grateful for the continued opportunity to represent our neighborhoods, where residents share a real passion for working together to make our lives better. Representing you in Albany means speaking out and taking action on issues that matter. **As 2015 approaches, I will continue to work tirelessly to improve the quality of life in our community for years to come.***

*In the coming pages, you can read more about the work I've accomplished over the last year, including updates on what has been happening in the community and information on legislation that I have introduced.*

*Remember, you can always reach me at 718-820-0241 or rozicn@assembly.state.ny.us with any questions or concerns.*

All the best,

## Representing You In Albany

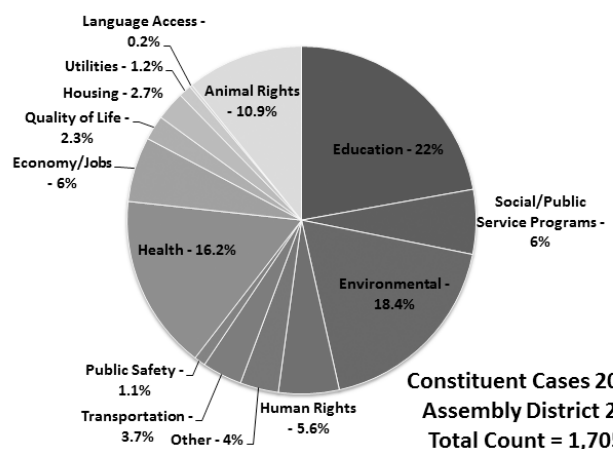


I have the privilege of serving on five committees: Children and Families; Corporations, Authorities and Commissions; Correction; Environmental Conservation; and Labor. I am also a member of the Legislative Women's Caucus, the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force, and the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislative Caucus.

### 76 Bills Sponsored & 123 Co-Sponsored

During this year's legislative session I wrote and passed legislation aimed at supporting women's rights, expanding access to education, workforce development, and government transparency.

## Constituent Services



## Hosting Mobile Office Hours

To make government services and programs more accessible, I hosted mobile office hours all over my district, including the South Asian Council for Social Services in Flushing.

## Helping Homeowners



### Ensuring Accurate Property Assessments

In response to widespread concerns and confusion among homeowners about property tax assessments, I held a Property Tax Workshop with the help of the City Tax Commission and the City Department of Finance. With property taxes being one of the most burdensome expenses for Queens homeowners, providing clarity and direct access to government agencies is the most effective way to provide assistance.



### Protecting Neighborhoods From Flooding

Over the summer, I held an event at George Ryan Middle School JHS 216 where over 300 sixty gallon rain barrels were distributed. Providing rain barrels will reduce the amount of water that enters the City's sewer system, lower water bills, and conserve water from the City's unfiltered drinking water supply.

## Upgrading Our Transit System



### Increasing Bus Service

Earlier this year, Congressman Steve Israel and I called on the MTA to increase bus service in Douglaston and stressed the need for an increase in federal funding to meet the demands of growing ridership. With few bus stops and infrequent service, Douglaston remains one of the most underserved neighborhoods in Northeast Queens.

## Revitalizing Our Schools

After touring schools in the district and hearing from students and faculty, I have been leading a volunteer effort to enhance P.S. 24's playground and give students a space that fosters learning and creativity outside of the classroom.



## Saving Gifted and Talented Seats

Early this year, the City abruptly changed the admission process for the Gifted and Talented program in district 26. Many families were not informed of the change in a timely manner and were threatened with the loss of seats. In response, I worked closely with parents of P.S. 203 in Oakland Gardens and Community Education Council District 26 to protect those seats, re-establish articulation for current students, and expand seats to accommodate additional students.



## Rent Relief for Seniors

I held a SCRIE (Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption) and DRIE (Disability Rent Increase Exemption)

Workshop to inform local tenants about the qualification changes to the program. This year, the State passed legislation to increase the income thresholds for SCRIE and DRIE. By increasing the income threshold for these programs, we preserve housing affordability, increase rent protections, and ensure continued access to services for individuals who helped shape our communities.



## Securing Funds to Expand Public Transportation

As part of my efforts to enhance public transportation in our district, in this year's state budget I helped secure \$500,000 in funding allocated by State Senator Tony Avella for the purposes of a bus study to be conducted by the MTA in Northeast Queens. Requiring the MTA to improve bus service delivers on my commitment to commuters—finding cost-effective and efficient ways to make improvements that have a dramatic difference for riders who need it most.

## Strengthening Our Education System



### Kicking Off UPK

To launch Universal Pre-K (UPK), I joined Mayor Bill de Blasio, First Lady Chirlane McCray, Council Member Peter Koo, and Borough President Melinda Katz to tour the Home Sweet Home Children's School in Fresh Meadows. A child's bright and successful future is built through programs like UPK, and I will work to ensure that a steady state stream of funding is made available for years to come.

## Serving Students

After advocating with local leaders and community members, funding for The Beacon Community Center at M.S. 158 was restored. Together with Commissioner Bill Chong, Council Member Paul Vallone, and the Samuel Field Y, I toured M.S. 158's Beacon Program and discussed ways to sustain and expand programming in our community. I will continue to work closely with the Department of Education and the Department of Youth and Community Development to ensure that the city and state provide vital funding and resources for our students.



## Increasing Access to Higher Education

The college admissions process can be a stressful time for families who face financial challenges. I introduced state legislation to help New York's middle-class families defray the cost of college preparation expenses, such as college admission tests like the SAT and ACT, preparation courses, application fees, and Advanced Placement exams. My legislation would help families cover the skyrocketing costs of college prep and provide students with options through the admissions process.



## Helping Seniors

### Protecting Seniors from Scam Prevention

Scammers have been calling seniors across Queens claiming to be collecting debt from a utility company, the IRS, settlement for an auto accident, or even the local NYPD Precinct. I was joined by Congresswoman Grace Meng, Council Member Mark Weprin, and the 111th Precinct in hosting a workshop to provide seniors at the Bayside Senior Center with consumer protection and safety tips.



### Welcoming New Affordable Housing

This year I celebrated the grand opening of senior housing at 137-39 45th Avenue in Flushing. Residents will have access to computers, a Virtual Senior Center, green roof space, exercise equipment, and health screenings at the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center next door.



### Repairing Roads

I joined Council Member Rory Lancman, civic leaders and dozens of Fresh Meadows residents in calling on the Department of Environmental Protection to expedite the investigation and repair of worsening road conditions in Fresh Meadows.



## Prioritizing Transportation Needs

In August, I held a public hearing with fellow members of the Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions to address transit needs the MTA should consider in its Capital Plan. At the hearing, I was briefed on efforts to implement a Select Bus Service route connecting Flushing and Jamaica, expansion of the Jamaica bus depot, and MTA Bus Time. The MTA also committed to begin community outreach as part of the Northeast Queens bus restoration study.

## Empowering Women



### Expanding Opportunities for Women-Owned Small Businesses

Women-owned businesses are one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy – nearly 30 percent of all Queens firms are owned by women, but they fall short in receiving government contracts. I joined U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congresswoman Grace Meng, State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky, Council Member Mark Weprin, and Queens women-owned small business owners to push for legislation that would expand access and opportunities for innovative Queens women entrepreneurs seeking federal contracts. This legislation would help level the playing field for hundreds of Women-Owned-Small Businesses who want to access the market of government contracts and tap into other opportunities to grow their business.



### Supporting Workplace Flexibility

As workforce dynamics change and more women become the primary breadwinner, the demand for workplace flexibility grows. In response, I introduced “right to request” legislation that would create a safe place for employees to discuss their options with employers without fear of retaliation.



### Honoring Women of Distinction

In celebration of Women’s History Month, I honored women principals of private and public schools across my district. Twenty-three Women of Distinction were celebrated for their leadership and service to the community. In today’s world where women are discriminated against in the workforce and are rarely represented in positions of power, it is important to recognize those that are blazing trails and enriching our community. Our women of distinction represent a diverse cross-section of our community who ensure that students have a quality education each and every day!



Assemblywoman

**Nily Rozic**

Legislative Report

Fall 2014

## Team Nily at Work



Let us know how we can help! My office can assist you with any questions or concerns. We speak multiple languages including: Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, and Spanish.

My office is always looking for interns or volunteers to help out around the office and assist in special projects. Interning here can help students gain valuable experience working in public service. If you are interested in applying to be an intern or volunteer, please contact us!

**Want to intern or volunteer in our community office?  
To apply, please contact us at 718-820-0241 or rozicn@assembly.state.ny.us**