

**May 26, 2022**

Greetings --

The horrific violence of the last two weeks - first the racist shooting at a supermarket in Buffalo and then at an elementary school in Ulvade, Texas on Tuesday - are the latest in a long line of mass shootings that force us once again to confront how deeply flawed our politics are and how damaged our social fabric is. Despite this, giving in to hopelessness and despair is not an option.

There has been a complete failure at the Congressional level to pass even modest gun safety legislation and this inaction has directly cost individuals lives. We absolutely must take action on gun violence at the federal level, but we also must be active at the state level. As a member of the state legislature this means continuing to work with my colleagues, the executive, and citizens to do whatever we can in New York State to prevent such senseless violence.

### ***Gun Control Legislation***

In New York we have some of the strongest gun laws in the country. Just last year we took steps to make these laws even stronger by passing legislation prohibiting the sale of untraceable guns ("ghost guns"), prohibiting guns designed to resemble toys, and prohibiting the possession by anyone other than a licensed dealer or manufacturer of gun parts that can be easily converted into semi-automatic weapons. The recently passed budget included over \$200 million in additional funding for gun violence prevention initiatives. I am also a cosponsor of [A.7926](#), which promotes the microstamping of guns to facilitate them being traced, and a cosponsor of [A.837](#), which would make it more difficult for people with criminal records to obtain guns.

The Governor has called for raising the age of gun ownership from eighteen to twenty-one. I support this proposal and will be an advocate for such legislation. While I believe we need to tackle gun violence directly through regulation, we must also work to create a fairer, healthier, more democratic, and more ethical society to change the culture of violence that afflicts us.

I will be participating in [National Gun Violence Awareness Day](#) and Wear Orange Weekend June 3 - 5 and encourage everyone to join. You can find out about local events [here](#).

### ***Dyslexia Task Force legislation passes the Assembly and Senate***

My bill, [A.2185-B](#), which will establish a task force to examine appropriate and effective evidence-based screening, intervention, and support for students with and at risk of dyslexia and dysgraphia has now passed both the Assembly and Senate and awaits the Governor's signature. [This is the result of years of work and advocacy](#) and represents the first major piece of legislation focused on dyslexia screening, curriculum, and teacher training that has ever passed in New York. Thank you to all of the advocates who helped get this bill passed and especially those [who signed my petition](#) and called their Senator.

You can watch my interview regarding my own experience with dyslexia and the importance of the task force legislation [with Errol Louis on NY1 here](#).



This legislation will mandate the Commissioner of the State Education Department to create a task force of educators, doctors, researchers, parents and advocates to examine and recommend the appropriate and evidence based screening methods, curriculum changes and teacher training that should be implemented for all students in kindergarten through 5th grade with dyslexia and dysgraphia.

***“Wrong Church” legislation protecting voters from disenfranchisement passes the Assembly and Senate***

My bill, [A.642-C](#), the voter protection bill known as the “Wrong Church” bill has now [passed both the Assembly and the Senate](#) and awaits the Governor’s signature. This legislation prevents voters from having their ballots invalidated simply because they mistakenly appeared in the wrong polling place, but in their correct Assembly District. [In the 2020 General Election](#) 13,800 ballots were disqualified statewide simply because those affidavit ballots were cast at a poll site not assigned to the voter. In New York City alone, 9,481 registered New York voters lost their vote because of this law. We should be making every effort to see that New Yorkers who want to vote can do so and that their votes are correctly counted.

***Legislation preserving pharmaceutical benefits for seniors passes the Assembly and Senate***

My bill, [A.928-A](#), preserving eligibility for seniors for the State’s Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Program (EPIC) has also passed both the Assembly and State Senate. This bill ensures that seniors who receive benefits helping to cover the cost of prescription drugs through the State’s EPIC program, won’t lose these benefits because their income exceeds the eligibility threshold as a result of cost of living adjustments to their social security or public or private pensions.

I am going to be working around the clock this next week to see that good legislation is passed as the legislative session draws to a close and I look forward to working with you, my partners in the community, to continue fighting for our priorities in the next legislative session.

**Upcoming Metro Card Van & Free Covid Tests:**

**The MTA MetroCard Van  
is Coming to Park Slope!**  
Sponsored by Assemblymember Robert Carroll



**Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
416 7th Avenue**



**Services Offered:**

- Get help with a Reduced-Fare application
- Transfer MetroCard balances (Full fare and Reduced-Fare)
- Exchange a damaged Reduced-Fare MetroCard for a temporary replacement
- Report a lost/stolen Reduced-Fare MetroCard
- Ask our team about any MetroCard-related issues

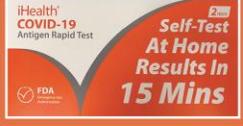
**If you can't come on May 31<sup>st</sup>, here is  
the regular MetroCard Bus/Van Schedule for Brooklyn**

Location	Day	Time
Sheepshead Bay at 3520 Nostrand Ave. (Between Avenue V & Avenue W)	1st Tuesday	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Starrett City at Pennsylvania Ave. & Twin Pines Drive	1st & 3rd Tuesday	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Coney Island at Neptune Avenue (Between West Fifth St. & Sixth Street)	1st Tuesday	1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Flatlands at Kings Plaza Shopping Mall (Avenue U & Flatbush Avenue)	1st & 3rd Tuesday	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Flatlands at 2424 Ralph Avenue (Avenue N & Mill Lane)	1st & 3rd Tuesday	12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Bensonhurst at 86 Street & Bay Pkwy.	2nd & 4th Friday	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Bay Ridge at 86 St & Fourth Avenue	2nd & 4th Friday	1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

**FREE Covid-19  
Test Distribution**  
*Assemblymember  
Carroll's office will  
have free tests  
available*

**Tuesday, May 31  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
416 7th Avenue**

Call the District Office  
if you need tests but are  
not available to stop  
by on May 31.



For additional information on this event or any other local or state issue,  
please call Assemblymember Robert Carroll's District Office at 718-788-7221

If you have questions or concerns about any community or legislative matter please email [carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:carrollr@nyassembly.gov) or call (718) 788-7221.

-Bobby

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