



June 6, 2022

Greetings --

The Assembly concluded its 2022 legislative session early Saturday morning, and I would like to update you on legislation for which I was the prime sponsor as well as significant developments relating to gun safety legislation, reproductive rights, and street safety.

Legislative Accomplishments

I was the prime sponsor for five pieces of legislation that passed both the Assembly and the State Senate and will now be sent to the Governor for her signature.

Flood Disclosure - “Right to Know”

My bill , [A.7876-A](#), requires residential leases to include notice of the flood risk and flood history of a leased premises, as well as a notice to tenants of flood insurance available to renters. In the last ten years, there have been flood disaster declarations in every county in New York State and flooding events are also the most common climate-related hazard in New York. This commonsense legislation will help provide renters the information they need to make good decisions regarding flood risk to protect their property and families. I am grateful to have partnered with the Waterfront Alliance and Rise to Resilience, a coalition of over one hundred organizations working to build climate resilience. I look forward to continuing to work with this coalition going forward.

Voter Registration - “10 Day Deadline”

My bill, [A.8858-A](#), will reduce the time required for boards of election to receive voter registration applications by mail from twenty-five days to ten days before an election consistent with the New York State Constitution. Voter registration applications received in person by boards of election ten days before an election will also be accepted.

We should continue to strive to make New York State a leader when it comes to voting rights and election administration. Thirty-one states already have registration deadlines under twenty-five days, eighteen of which offer same day voter registration.

“Wrong Church” legislation protecting voters from disenfranchisement

My bill, [A.642-C](#), prevents voters from having their ballots invalidated simply because they mistakenly appeared in the wrong polling place, but in the correct county and 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.

Dyslexia Task Force legislation

My bill, [A.2185-B](#), 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. 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.

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.

EPIC pharmaceutical benefits for seniors

My bill, [A.928-A](#), 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.

Unfinished Business - The Build Public Renewables Act

I was also the prime sponsor of the Build Public Renewables Act, [A.1466-D](#), which unfortunately did not pass the Assembly this session. This legislation would have allowed the New York Power Authority, the largest public power authority in the country, to build, operate and own as many renewable energy projects as it wanted. This legislation would have created competition in the renewable market and required all state-owned buildings to be powered by renewables by 2030 and municipally owned buildings by 2035.

Further, there were provisions to provide renewable energy to low-income New Yorkers and invest in energy efficiencies and retrofits for NYCHA and other affordable housing. This would have created a pathway for New York to meet its goals under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act of 2019 (CLCPA) and be a model for the rest of the country. As climate change and its devastating effects accelerate, relying on the private sector is not going to end our reliance on fossil fuels in the time frame needed.

Public Power NY, a coalition of activists and community organizations, did incredible organizing around this legislation. I share the frustration of all those who worked so hard that a vote was not taken on the floor of the Assembly this year. We must continue to work together so

New York can achieve the renewable, democratically controlled, publicly owned energy system that we need and pass this bill as soon as possible. Speaker Heastie announced today that the Assembly will convene a hearing on the Build Public Renewables Act on July 28th to review the bill and get additional public input. This is a positive step and is only happening because of the advocacy work of the Public Power NY coalition. I look forward to hearing from as many members of the public and advocates as possible in July.

Street Safety / Speed Camera Expansion

Since 2014, New York City has implemented and expanded a speed camera program in school zones to protect children, other pedestrians, and motorists. Currently, there are cameras in 750 school zones, and data has shown that the program has led to a reduction in speeding. To build on this progress the Assembly passed [A.10438](#) which will extend the program for another three years and expand operation of the cameras from 6 am to 10 pm to 24 hours a day, three hundred and sixty-five days a year. The evidence is clear that reducing speeding saves lives and I am proud to have co-sponsored this legislation. This legislation also passed the State Senate and will be sent to the Governor for her signature.

Gun Safety Legislation

In New York we already have some of the strongest gun laws in the country, but following the supermarket shooting in Buffalo by an avowed white supremacist, yet another horrific school shooting - this time in Uvalde, Texas, and just this week a shooting in a hospital complex in Tulsa, it was imperative that we acted to strengthen and expand gun safety laws.

The Assembly passed a package of ten bills, which have also passed the State Senate, including the expansion of the “red flag law”, which was implemented in 2019 and allows courts to issue an extreme risk protection order (ERPO) that prohibits a person who is determined to be a threat to themselves or others from purchasing or possessing a firearm for up to one year. Now [A.10502](#) expands the list of professions who can petition the court and requires police and district attorneys to file ERPO petitions upon credible information that an individual is likely to engage in conduct that would result in serious harm to themselves or others.

[A.10503](#) requires individuals to obtain a license before purchasing a semiautomatic rifle and will also raise the age of purchase from 18 to 21.

[A.10497](#) makes it unlawful to sell or possess body vests for individuals who are not engaged in an eligible profession, such as law enforcement, and require sales of body vests be done in person.

[A.6716-A](#) and [A.7865-A](#) will create the crime of making a threat of mass harm as well as require social media platforms to have a clear and concise policy for responding to hateful conduct on their networks and easily accessible mechanisms to report this conduct.

[A.10501](#) will create a Task Force on Social Media and Violent Extremism within the Attorney General’s Office to investigate the role of social media platforms in promoting or facilitating extremism and domestic terrorism.

In addition, the Assembly Majority passed legislation that will:

- Strengthen reporting and record keeping requirements to prevent gun sales to people with a criminal record and requires all state and local law enforcement agencies to report seized or recovered guns to the criminal gun clearinghouse and provide relevant data for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' (ATF) data sharing program and National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) ([A.1023-A](#)).
- Require the state Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to determine if microstamping-enabled pistols are technologically viable and, if viable, establish programs to implement the technology and create the crime of unlawful sale of a non-microstamping-enabled firearm ([A.7926-A](#));
- Eliminate the grandfathering of large-capacity ammunition-feeding devices that were lawfully possessed prior to the enactment of the 2013 SAFE Act or manufactured before 1994 ([A.10428-A](#)); and,
- Expand the definition of "firearm" in the Penal Law to include any weapon that is designed or can be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosion ([A.10504](#)).

Reproductive Health and Abortion Services

With abortion rights under assault in many states and under threat at the national level, the Assembly passed legislation that will ensure that New York's laws regarding reproductive rights are strengthened and not infringed on. These bills also passed the State Senate and will be sent to the Governor for her signature.

The Assembly passed legislation ([A.9687-B](#) and [A.9718-B](#)) that will protect health care practitioners from professional discipline based solely on providing reproductive health services to patients in other states and will prohibit medical malpractice insurance companies from taking any adverse action against a reproductive health care provider who provides reproductive health related services that are legal in New York on an individual from another state, including providers that legally prescribe medication to an out of state patient through tele-medicine.

To address threats of violence against reproductive health care providers and others, we also passed [A.9818-A](#) that will allow reproductive health care service providers and their immediate family members, employees, volunteers and patients to be eligible for New York's Address Confidentiality Program run by the Department of State, which allows individuals to apply for a designated address to receive mail instead of using their actual address.

Another bill passed, [A.10372-A](#) will provide judicial protections to reproductive health care providers in New York. The bill will:

- provide that the governor will not recognize a demand for extradition of a person charged with providing an abortion unless the person was present in the requesting state at the time of the alleged offense and then fled;

- prohibit law enforcement from arresting any person for performing or aiding in the performance of an abortion in New York, or in procuring an abortion in New York if the abortion is performed legally;
- prohibit law enforcement from cooperating with or providing information to any out-of-state agency related to the provision of legal abortions in New York; and
- prohibit courts and county clerks from issuing subpoenas related to out-of-state proceedings related to abortion services or procedures that were legally performed in New York unless certain circumstances are present.

[A.10094-A](#) seeks to protect people coming from out of state seeking reproductive health care by enabling them to bring a lawsuit in New York when there is litigation against them in another state in violation of New York's reproductive health laws.

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

-Bobby

Assemblymember Robert Carroll

416 7th Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11215

(718) 788-7221

LOB 557

Albany NY 12248

(518) 455 5377

Carrollr@nyassembly.gov

