

Dear Neighbors;

I would like to thank you for your continued support in fighting for what is most important to us as a community. Throughout this past year, you have shared with me your concerns on public safety, the environment, education, housing, and small business, wondering if our great state has lost its luster, and if anyone in Albany is listening to you.

I know we have not all agreed on what the solutions are to the weighting issues that continue to compound our daily lives, but I hope that my arguments and more importantly my record of achievement, mattered most in maintaining your trust. Having open dialogues has afforded us all an opportunity to learn each other's perspectives in terms of what we see and understand how to address problems together and not to ignore the opinions of others due to their differences.

Though our issues are many, when we work together as a family, we will overcome it all.

And with that, let me share with you what I and the Assembly have done so far to help make New York the place we wish it to be.

EQUALITY AMENDMENT

The Supreme Court has failed women and it has failed to protect the rights of Americans. But New York will not.

I voted to help enact the Reproductive Health Act in 2019, guaranteeing New Yorkers the right to make choices regarding their reproductive health care. And earlier this year, we passed laws protecting health care providers, enabling individuals targeted by civil penalty laws to seek relief in our civil courts from vindictive fines and ensuring state law enforcement agencies never participate in the investigation or prosecution of individuals who perform or receive this essential care.

Continuing our efforts, my colleagues and I, along with the Senate, passed an Equality Amendment which would protect New Yorkers from discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed, religion or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity or expression ([A.41002](#)). Most notably, the amendment protects New Yorkers from discrimination based on pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes and reproductive care decisions.

To become law, the measure must pass both houses of the Legislature again in the next session before it goes before the voters as a ballot referendum.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

It is vitally important that we ensure history is accurately taught in our schools. And, with a disturbing rise in antisemitic hate crimes across New York, that means advancing our efforts to deepen and expand Holocaust education in the state.

Earlier this year, the Assembly and Senate passed legislation that would authorize and direct the state Commissioner of Education to conduct a survey and submit a report to the governor and Legislature on school district compliance with the requirement to provide instruction on the Holocaust ([A.472-C](#)).

It is our collective responsibility to never forget the millions of lives lost, and we must also make a conscious effort to educate future generations to prevent events like the Holocaust from happening again.

JOHN R. LEWIS VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF NEW YORK

With voting rights under attack across the nation, New York is working to protect this sacred constitutional right. To that end, Assembly along with the Senate, passed the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act of New York.

Under the law, political subdivisions with a history of voter disenfranchisement, including local governments, local boards of elections and school districts, are required to obtain preclearance prior to making certain changes to their election laws and practices.

This legislation also prohibits any laws, policies or practices that would result in voter suppression or vote dilution of members of a particular race, color or language-minority group. It establishes standing for aggrieved individuals and organizations, as well as the New York State attorney general, to bring an action against a political subdivision for alleged violations and provide remedies where disenfranchisement has occurred.

The Assembly is committed to fighting for voters' rights and protecting this civil liberty, which is a fundamental right of our democracy that plays an important role in community and social change.

NYC SPEED CAMERAS

When parents drop their children off at the bus stop or at their school each morning, they want the peace of mind that their child will be safe.

The Assembly passed a law extending the New York City speed camera program for another three years and enabling cameras to operate 24/7. Under the previous law, cameras could only operate from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays – a time frame that misses when many speeding

violations occur. In 2020 alone, 35.5% of non-highway traffic fatalities occurred in school speed zones but at times when the cameras were not allowed to operate.

The speed camera program has delivered real results for our communities, but we must continue working to improve and expand this program to better protect our most vulnerable residents. I'll continue working with my colleagues to advance legislation that improves safety on our roads.

PROTECTING COMPANION ANIMALS

To help combat the national scourge of unscrupulous animal breeders, the Assembly passed legislation to end the retail sale of dogs, cats and rabbits in pet stores across the state (A.4283). The legislation, which was also passed by the Senate, will be sent to the governor for her consideration.

This bill ensures that pet stores in New York will no longer provide a market for animals subjected to cruelty and physical and psychological abuse by the puppy mill supply chain.

SCOTUS GUN SAFETY RESPONSE

The Supreme Court recently made the dangerous and disturbing decision to dismantle New York State's more than 100-year-old concealed carry law.

In response, the Assembly worked with our Senate colleagues to pass a law establishing sensitive places where guns are not permitted, such as mass transit, schools, hospitals, government buildings and establishments that serve alcohol. The measure also allows private business owners to decide whether to allow guns on their property.

The law implements new live-training requirements as part of the concealed carry licensing process and expands the list of crimes that would preclude a person from being eligible for a concealed carry permit. The legislation also requires safe storage of firearms in households that include a person under the age of 18.

The Supreme Court may prioritize access to guns over the lives of our loved ones, but here in New York we will never value guns over lives.

SMALLER CLASS SIZE

The Assembly, along with the Senate, passed a bill that would ensure the New York City School District is working toward achieving smaller class sizes.

This legislation would require the chancellor, together with teacher and principal unions, to develop a class-size reduction plan with specific class-size targets based on grade level that must

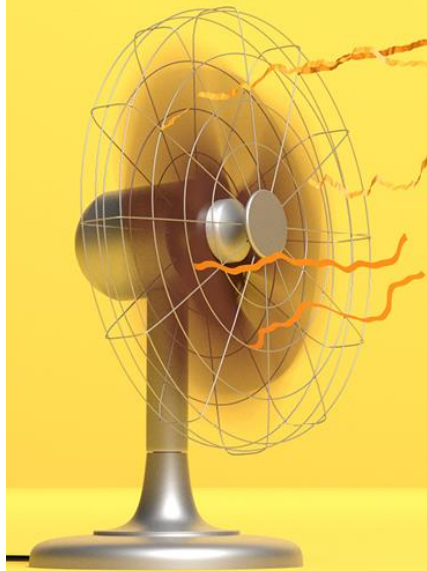
be met for all classes by September 2027 ([A.10498](#)). The plan would be required to prioritize schools serving populations with higher poverty levels and include any exemptions to the targets, which would be limited to space, over-enrollment of students, teacher license shortages and severe economic distress.

The NYC School District would also be required to prepare an annual report to the state Commissioner of Education on the status of its class-size reduction plan. If the commissioner finds that the plan does not sufficiently decrease class sizes, the district would be required to submit a corrective action plan to the commissioner that must be developed and approved by both the chancellor and the teacher and principal unions.

Reducing class sizes benefits students in getting the attention and care that they rightfully deserve to succeed in all aspects of education.

You can follow the any of these bill's progress by using the Quick Bill Search tool on the Assembly's website (nyassembly.gov). You may also follow the Assembly Majority on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NYSAssemblyMajority) ([facebook.com/NYSAssemblyMajority](https://www.facebook.com/NYSAssemblyMajority)), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/nysa_majority) (twitter.com/nysa_majority) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/nysa_majority) ([Instagram.com/nysa_majority](https://www.instagram.com/nysa_majority)).

Thank you for your advocacy and activism. Your input helps me to better serve our community.



***Need a way to beat the
summer heat?***

***Cooling centers
can help!***

COVID-19 CAPITAL COSTS TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

Tax credits are available
to help small businesses
with costs of COVID-19
safety improvements!

A dark silhouette of the state of Alaska is positioned on the right side of the graphic, overlapping the teal and orange background sections.



FREE SUMMER MEALS

STARTING JUNE 28

The NYC Summer Meals Program provides free breakfast or lunch to anyone 18 or under – no ID is required. Meals are distributed through designated public schools, community pool centers, parks and food trucks.





The Assembly Majority celebrates
the historic swearing in of
Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson
to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has blocked crucial environmental policies and is blatantly ignoring pleas to do more to combat climate change.
The Assembly Majority will continue the fight to save our planet.





Helping New Yorkers access fresh, healthy food

with the

Commodity Supplemental Food Program:

CSFP provides free, nutritious foods to New Yorkers aged 60 and older who live in New York City or on Long Island. During the summer months, participants receive additional benefits to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables at farmers markets.