



Assemblymember

Anna Kelles

Assembly District 125



June 26, 2023

Dear Neighbors,

The legislative session has finally concluded, and this summer is bringing some exciting changes for our Ithaca District Office as we are moving locations next week! We aren't going far and will be staying in the neighborhood, right on the Ithaca Commons. Our new address will be:

130 E State St (2nd Floor - Above 'Mia' Restaurant)

Ithaca, NY 14850

With Independence Day on July 4th, we will not be sending out a newsletter next week, so you can look out for the next issue around July 10th. We will also have limited access to our phones and email during the transition to our new office space but should be back to full capacity after the July 4th holiday. Thank you for your patience!

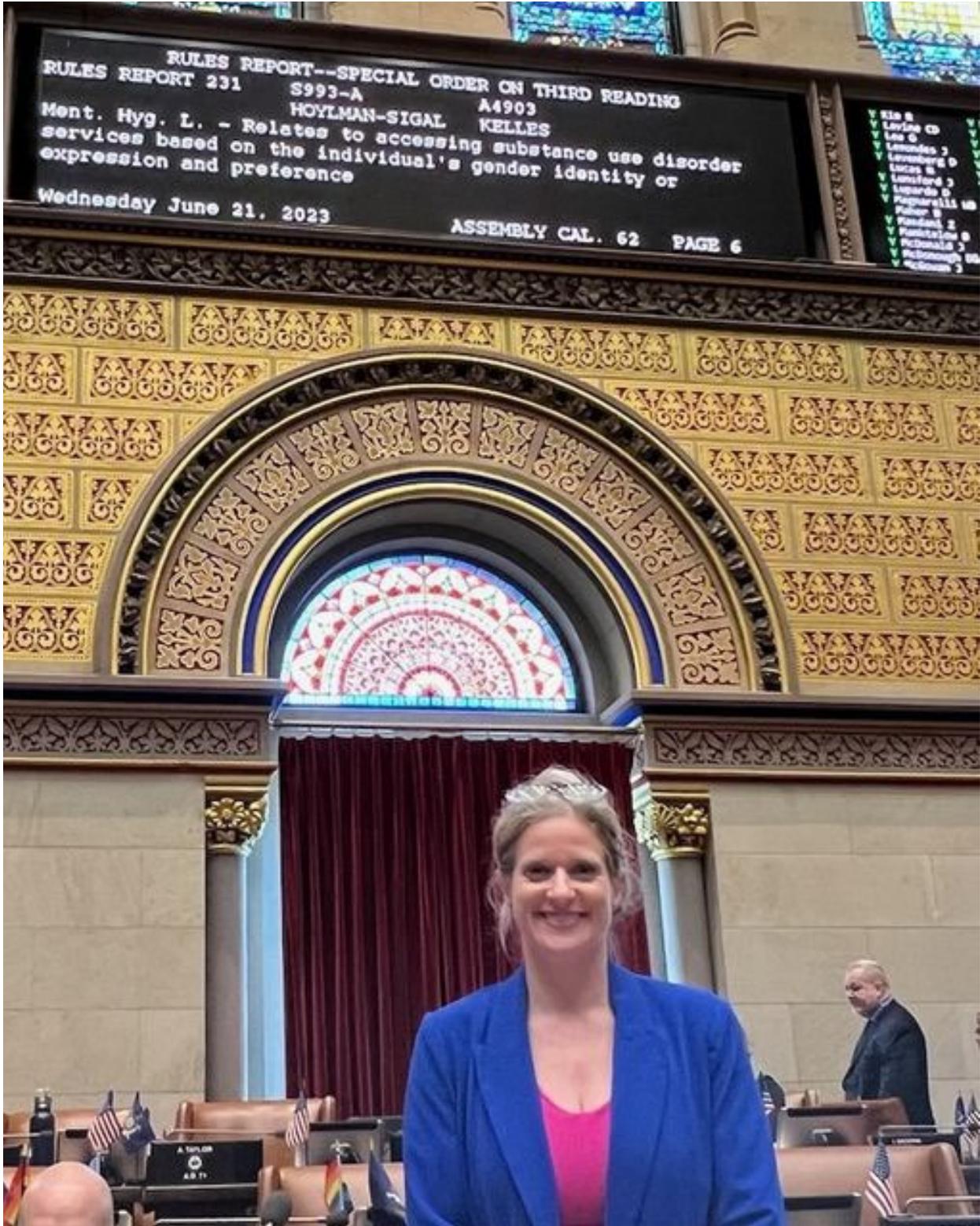
Legislative Update

Important LGBTQIA+ Bills Signed into Law

As Pride Month draws to a close, I am delighted to share that two of my bills that passed in this legislative session were signed into law: [A4903](#), which ensures LGBTQIA+ individuals will receive substance use treatment in accordance with their gender identity, and [A1142](#), which requires the use of gender-neutral terms in law.

You can read the [statement from the Governor's office](#), which details these laws and other important legislation advancing LGBTQIA+ rights in New York State.

You can also watch [my remarks about A4903](#) and read more about the passage of the bill as it was [covered by Spectrum News](#).



Legislative Session Achievements

I am proud to report some big achievements from this legislative session, our most productive since I've been in office! These legislative wins will have a great impact in our 125th Assembly District if/when signed into law, with Ithaca Carshare being able to resume service, improved access to broadband internet in areas like Dryden, and the promotion and protection of rights and healthcare for our LGBTQIA+ community.

10 Prime Bills Passed in Assembly and Senate

[A4903](#)* - LGBTQIA+ Substance Use Treatment

[A1142](#)* - Gender-Neutral Terms in Law

[A4911](#) - Agrivoltaics Research

[A5718](#) - Carshare Nonprofit Insurance/Risk Retention Groups

[A2873-B](#) - Cryptocurrency Disclosure for Public Officers

[A1260](#) - Broadband Infrastructure Funding through Bonds

[A1261](#) - Cortland Real Estate Transfer Tax Authorization

[A6588](#) - Cortland County Sales Tax Authorization Extension

[A6590](#) - Cortland County Mortgage Tax Authorization Extension

[A6591](#) - Tompkins County Sales Tax Authorization Extension

*Signed into law 6/25/23!

2 Additional Prime Bills Passed in the State Budget

[A4507](#) - Small Business Innovation Research Grants/Technology Transfer Program Funding

[A3690](#) - Corporate Income Tax Rate Increased

Message from the Speaker's Office - Reproductive Rights

A year ago, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled to gut Americans' reproductive rights. They overturned 50 years of precedent as *Roe v. Wade* was thrown out, opening the floodgates for conservative state legislatures to enact draconian laws blocking access to potentially life-saving medical procedures.

While the consequences of the *Dobbs* decision continue to jeopardize the well-being of Americans across the country, I stand with the NY Assembly majority and remain firmly committed to protecting essential health care, equality and justice for all.

I will

ALWAYS

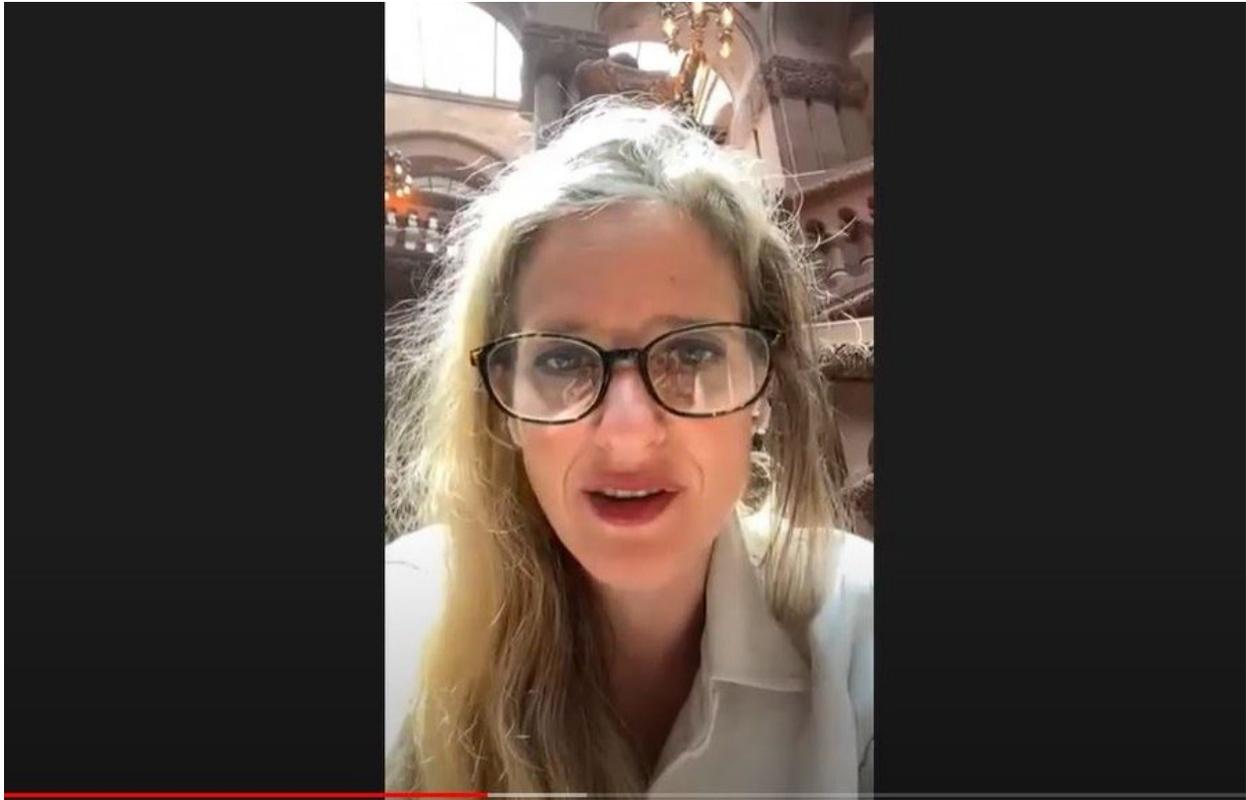
**stand up against
extremists who want to
take our fundamental
rights away.**

Anna in the News

Digihost Air Permit Denial Press Conference

Last week I spoke out against the issuing of an air permit from the Department of Environmental Conservation to Digihost Technology, a bitcoin data mining company in a press conference hosted by EarthJustice.

Bitcoin mining is an incredibly energy-intensive industry, and New York state must not issue these types of permits if it is going to keep its commitment to the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) and state climate goals. Data mining activity releases an estimate of 300,000 metric tons of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere per year and causes a significant increase in noise pollution and the pollution of our state's precious freshwater. We cannot as a state allow companies to profit from the irresponsible exploitation and degradation of our natural resources.



Community Resources

Preparing to Travel Abroad?

My office has recently heard from several constituents regarding passport expiration dates and travel requirements, and I want to share some important information that anyone preparing for international travel should be aware of.

Passports issued to those **16 or older** are valid for **10 years**. For those **younger than 16** when issued, they are valid for **5 years**.

Some countries require that a passport be valid for at least **six months beyond the dates of your travel**, so please look up your destination's requirements well in advance of your trip!

You can find [specific country information](#) at travel.state.gov, as well as other [frequently asked questions](#) regarding passport issuance and validity.



In solidarity and health,

Anna R. Kelles

Anna Kelles, Ph.D.

Assemblymember, 125th A.D.

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