



Fall Update 2015

Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel

16th Assembly District

Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel's District News

- Speaks Out For Gun Control
- Women's Equality Agenda Signed Into Law
- Schimel Hosts Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie For Tour Of District
- Featured Panelist At Long Island Water Conference's Water Symposium
- Honored By Ethical Humanist Society And Port Washington Senior Center
- Microbead-Free Waters Act Passes Assembly
- Gives Testimony At Office For People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Transformation Hearing
- Co-Hosts Citizen Emergency Preparedness Program With State Emergency Management

Schimel Joins Governor Cuomo for the Signing of Historic Women's Equality Agenda

Asssemblywoman Schimel joined Governor Cuomo, Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, and the Legislative Women's Caucus at the Roosevelt House for the signing of multiple pieces of legislation that will protect and further women's equality in New York State.

The laws will help: achieve pay equity, strengthen human trafficking laws, protect victims of sexual harassment, protect victims of domestic violence from housing discrimination, and strengthen order-of-protection laws.



Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel with Governor Andrew Cuomo, Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, and the Legislative Women's Caucus during a ceremony for the signing of historic women's equality agenda.

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SCHIMEL SPEAKS OUT ON THE NEED FOR GUN CONTROL

Schimel Attends Briefing at the West Wing of the White House

Bipartisan Discussion on Policies to Reduce Gun Violence in the U.S.

Assemblywoman Schimel was invited to participate in a meeting at the West Wing of the White House on policies to reduce gun deaths and injuries. She was joined by fellow co-chair of NY-American Legislators Against Gun Violence, Assemblyman Brian Kavanaugh, and state representatives from both sides of the aisle from around the country.

In the briefing, they discussed how states are combating and reducing gun violence in their respective states.



Stands with Congressman Steve Israel for Federal Background Checks

Assemblywoman Schimel, longtime gun control activist, joined a press conference calling for federal background checks for gun buyers. Schimel joined Congressman Steve Israel, Nassau County District Attorney-elect Madeline Singas, and members of **Moms Demand Action** in calling for the passing of H.R. 1217, the bipartisan King-Thompson background check legislation.

The bill would expand the existing background check system to cover all commercial firearm sales, including those at gun shows, over the internet or in classified ads while providing reasonable exceptions for family and friend transfers.



Pictured Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel, New York State Assemblyman Brian Kavanaugh, and state representatives from across the country.

Schimel Hosts Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie in Her Assembly District

New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie joined Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel on a tour of her Assembly District. The tour was one of the Speaker's latest steps in his initiative to visit all of his member's districts.

Speaker Heastie and Assemblywoman Schimel joined Port Washington School District Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Mooney, Weber Middle School Principal Christopher Shields, and Regent Roger Tilles for a tour of Weber Middle School. During the tour, Speaker Heastie met administrators, teachers and students, listening attentively to the issues affecting schools in the Assemblywoman's district.

"It is unprecedented to have the Speaker visit my district. This is an amazing opportunity for me to show off what makes the 16th Assembly District unique and important."

—Assemblywoman Schimel

The Speaker's tour concluded with a meeting of local school superintendents and Regent Tilles to discuss issues affecting their respective school districts. Topics included restoring funding for the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) and state standardized testing.



Pictured (Left to Right) Regent Roger Tilles, students of the Port Washington Weber Middle School, Principal of Weber Middle School Christopher Shields, Assembly Speaker Heastie, Assemblywoman Schimel, Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Mooney, and Assistant Superintendent Mary Callahan.



Local superintendents meet with Assembly Speaker Heastie, Assemblywoman Schimel and Regent Roger Tilles.

Schimel Featured Panelist at Long Island Water Conference Symposium

Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel, a member of the Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation, was a featured panelist at the Long Island Water Conference's Annual Water Symposium. She was joined by Assemblyman Steven Englebright, Chair of the Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation, and County Legislator Donald MacKenzie, a former Commissioner of the Oyster Bay Water District. Suffolk County Water Authority Chairman James Gaughran monitored the panel.

Assemblywoman Schimel discussed her environmental legislative priorities for next session, including her **Microbead-Free Waters Act** and **Triclosan Ban** legislation. Also included in the discussion were the dangers of flushables in our sewer systems, the need for water conservation on Long Island, saltwater intrusion, and climate change.

The Microbead-Free Waters Act would prohibit the production, manufacture, distribution and sale of any beauty product, cosmetic or other personal care product containing tiny plastic beads, commonly marketed as microbeads in New York. Consumers using products containing microbeads, such as shampoos, soaps and toothpastes are washing them down our sinks and bathtubs, in what most consumers believe are harmless waste.

New Yorkers flush 19 tons of microbeads down the drain each year. These microbeads collect harmful pollutants, and harm fish and other aquatic organisms that end up as the base of our aquatic food chain.



Pictured (Left to Right) Nassau County Legislator Donald MacKenzie, Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel, Suffolk Water Authority Chairman James Gaughran, and Assemblyman Steven Englebright.

Her **Triclosan Ban** legislation would prohibit the sale of cleaning products containing triclosan, a synthetic broad-spectrum antimicrobial agent that has been found to be toxic to aquatic life and algae. New York would be the second state in the country to prohibit this antibacterial compound found in an array of cleaning products such as soaps, body washes, shampoos, laundry detergents, and disinfectants.

Nassau County PBA President Carver Interviews Assemblywoman Schimel on Radio Show

Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel was a guest on Nassau County Police Benevolent Association (NCPBA) President James Carver's radio show "Police Talks."

The radio show covers issues relevant to law enforcement on Long Island. During the half hour, many topics were covered including "The Move Over Act" requiring drivers to move to the adjacent lane for any emergency vehicle, and the proposed "Raise the Age Legislation" that requires a defendant aged 16, 17 or 18 years old, who is a first-time misdemeanor offender, to receive a Youthful Offender adjudication.

"Police Talks" can be heard Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. on WHLI - 1100 AM. Schimel's radio segment can also be seen on the **NCPBA Police Talks YouTube Channel** at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxvHKXuIIn8>.



Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel with NCPBA President James Carver on his radio show, "Police Talks."

Assemblywoman Schimel Joins Larry Greenstein at Transition Forum Hearing for Developmentally Disabled Individuals

Assemblywoman Schimel partnered with Larry Greenstein, a Port Washington parent, to attend the Transformation Panel of the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

Schimel and Greenstein gave testimony in opposition to the federal and state governmental mandates to close sheltered workshops. Mr. Greenstein pointed out that there are few effective incentives, tax or otherwise, for private companies to hire candidates with disabilities in a mainstream setting.

Schimel stated in her testimony, "When it comes to the employment, transportation, caring for and housing of members of the disability community, One Size Does Not Fit All. We would have strongly preferred OPWDD and

the federal government to pilot and prove the effectiveness of some developmental disability employment transitions before determining that sheltered workshops were no longer necessary."

Both of their testimonies asked that OPWDD reach out to other levels of government. There must be strong partnerships between OPWDD and its federal counterparts. This is especially important since federal regulations and funding streams are in many ways keeping New York State from providing more flexible options.

OPWDD and its programs must be adequately funded. The salaries of support personnel must be high enough to attract and retain qualified staff. The needs of people with disabilities must be the OPWDD's first consideration, not just saving money.

Around the Community



Town Clerk Wayne Wink, Meena Verma, Alice Chan, Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel, Supervisor Judi Bosworth, and Tai Nin Wang of event sponsor WAC Lighting at the Town of North Hempstead's Annual Asian American Festival.



Assemblywoman Schimel joined Congressman Steve Israel, Nassau County District Attorney-elect Madeline Singas, Great Neck School Superintendent Dr. Teresa Prendergast, and gun control activist group New York Chapter Moms Demand Action.



Assemblywoman Schimel speaking at the Long Island Library Resource Council Legislative Breakfast.



This summer, Assemblywoman Schimel and her interns brought their annual Skin-telligence program to local pools to inform pool-goers about the importance of skin care. The event included pamphlets, sunscreen samples, UV detecting key chains, skin care crosswords and word searches. Pictured at the Parkwood Pool (Left to right) Prajanan Senthilkumar, intern (Manhasset), Dan Marsella, Facility Manager, Sandy Portnoy, Director of Constituent Services, Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel, and Amanda Ng, intern (New Hyde Park).



Assemblywoman Schimel sponsored the 4th annual Legislative Pet Food Drive in the 16th Assembly District, in partnership with Long Island Cares. The pet food drive helps local soup kitchens and food pantries meet the needs of struggling families with pets. Pictured (left to right) Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel and Kulsoom Rasheed from Great Neck South High.



Assemblywoman Schimel, along with her staff and interns, paid their annual visit to Island Harvest, the largest hunger relief organization on Long Island. The volunteers gave their time to sort more than 1250 donated books by packing and labeling the books for distribution. Pictured from (left to right): Elizabeth Boyle (Manhasset), Andy Park (Port Washington), Sandy Portnoy, Director of Constituent Services, Prajanan Senthilkumar (Manhasset), Amanda Ng (New Hyde Park), Nicole Duckham, Chief of Staff, Josh Messite (Great Neck), Todd Qiu (Manhasset), and Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel.



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Michelle Honored by the Ethical Humanist Society

Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel was recently honored at the Social Justice Leadership Award Dinner presented by **The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island**. The Award "honors individuals who have dedicated their lives to the betterment of humankind." Assemblywoman Schimel, who is currently serving her fifth term in the New York State Assembly for the 16th Assembly District, was recognized "for her passion on the issues that affect New York, particularly the prevention of gun violence and protecting the environment." The event and award was featured in **PULSE Magazine**.

Muriel Newfield, member of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island and long-time friend of the Assemblywoman said, "I first met Michelle over 20 years ago. Assemblywoman Schimel deserves this award more than anyone else I know. Her work regarding gun safety makes me personally feel safe, and keeps New York safe as a whole."

Schimel Honored by Port Washington Senior Center



Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel and former Town of North Hempstead Councilman Tony D'Urso honored by the Port Washington Senior Center.