

Look for news out of Albany this week as the Assembly will pass our one house budget. As you have read over the past number of weeks, I have many differences with some of the plans the Governor laid out in his Executive Budget earlier this year, so I am hoping that some of those issues will be addressed in the one house budget that we release in the Assembly next week.

If you haven't already, please tell the Governor that NYC public schools deserve to be fully funded by signing my Foundation Aid petition here:



Legislative Digest

So far this session I am the co-sponsor of 74 bills in the Assembly. Check out some of the highlights of some of the bills below. To see a full list of the bills that I am co-sponsoring, please click here.

Womens Health

Passed the Assembly

Cahill A1378

An act to amend the insurance law, the social services law, the education law and the public health law, in relation to requiring health insurance policies to include coverage of all FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices, and products, as well as voluntary sterilization procedures, contraceptive education and counseling, and related follow up services and prohibiting a health insurance policy from imposing any cost-sharing requirements or other restrictions or delays with respect to this coverage.

The "Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act" aims to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies by requiring that commercial group health insurance policies cover all FDA approved contraceptive drugs, devices, and products.

Glick A1748

An act to amend the public health law, in relation to enacting the reproductive health act and revising existing provisions of law regarding abortion; to amend the penal law, the criminal procedure law, the county law and the judiciary law, in relation to abortion; to repeal certain provisions of the public health law relating to abortion; to repeal certain provisions of the education law relating to the sale of contraceptives; and to repeal certain provisions of the penal law relating to abortion.

This bill provides further access to reproductive services, by stating that an abortion may be performed by a licensed, certified, or authorized practitioner within 24 weeks from the commencement of pregnancy, or there is an absence of fetal viability, or at any time when necessary to protect a patient's life or health. I proudly support this bill because this is a matter of health and women's choice.

Immigration

Passed the Assembly

<u>Moya A3039</u>

An act to amend the education law, in relation to creating the New York DREAM fund commission; eligibility requirements and conditions governing general awards, academic performance awards and student loans; eligibility requirements for assistance under the higher education opportunity programs and the collegiate science and technology entry program; financial aid opportunities for students of the state university of New York, the city university of New York and community colleges; and the program requirements for the New York state college choice tuition savings program; and to repeal subdivision 3 of section 661 of such law relating thereto.

The "Dream Act" would create a DREAM fund and a DREAM fund commission in order to advance the educational opportunities of the children of immigrants by providing scholarships to college bound students, as well as eliminate potential financial obstacles to obtaining State financial aid and extend the opportunities for undocumented students to attend higher education institutions in this State by providing a benefit consistent with U.S. citizens and nationals. I support this legislation because it grants all citizens the opportunity to excel in academics, and denies no one the right of education and economic prosperity.

<u>Moya A3049b</u>

An act to amend the executive law and the judiciary law, in relation to access to services, law enforcement and counsel in certain immigration related matters; and to amend the judiciary law, in relation to compensation of legal counsel for certain matters.

This bill aims to ensure that people are not unnecessarily questioned about immigration status when seeking state or local services, benefits or assistance, and that state or local law enforcement agencies shall not stop, question, investigate or arrest a person based on perceived immigration status or suspected violation of federal immigration law. This unnecessary and prejudice action has no place in New York. It is our job to welcome, protect and promote the diversity that makes us so special.

Criminal Justice Reform

Passed the Assembly

Lentol A4876

The bill amends and enacts various provisions of law to raise the age of adult criminal responsibility from sixteen to eighteen so that youth who are charged with a crime may be treated in a more age appropriate manner. Currently, New York and North Carolina are the only two states that have not yet raised the age to eighteen.

Aubry A3055a

An act to amend the criminal procedure law, in relation to time limits for a speedy trial.

This bill aims to ensure cases go to trial in a reasonable timeframe, and is called "Kalief's Law" after Kalief Browder, who spent more than 700 days in solitary confinement on a charge for which he was never tried or convicted. Who ultimately took his own life due to the depression and anxiety caused by the situation. No one should ever have to suffer the same fate as Kalief, and I supported this bill because it is incredibly important to make sure that what happened to Kalief Browder never happens to another person again.

Health Care

Gottfried A4738

Establishes the New York Health program, a comprehensive system of access to health insurance for New York state residents; provides for administrative structure of the plan; provides for powers and duties of the board of trustees, the scope of benefits, payment methodologies and care coordination; establishes the New York Health Trust Fund which would hold monies from a variety of sources to be used solely to finance the plan; enacts provisions relating to financing of New York Health, including a payroll assessment, similar to the Medicare tax; establishes a temporary commission on implementation of the plan; provides for collective negotiations by health care providers with New York Health.

This bill is significant because it aims to establish a single payer option for New York State. This would mean drastically restructuring the current infrastructure of health care and insurance for all New Yorker's by guaranteeing them coverage for the most basic of health services. According to economist Gerald Friedman, this enactment alone could save the state \$45B annually and 99.9% of citizens would see an annual savings.

Housing

Bichotte A741

Prohibits an owner from adjusting the amount of preferential rent, rent charged and paid by the tenant which is less than the legal regulated rent for the housing accommodation, upon the renewal of a lease; only allows the owner to make such adjustments upon a vacancy which is not the result of the failure of the owner to maintain a habitable residence. In addition, such a vacancy may not be caused by an owner or an agent of the owner's the failure to maintain the housing accommodation in a habitable condition.

Kavanagh A954

Repeals provisions permitting rent increases after vacancy of a housing accommodation or "vacancy decontrol" This bill would protect tenants by repealing the ability of a landlord to obtain a twenty percent increase in rent pursuant to the statutory vacancy bonus provision of the Emergency Tenant Protection Act. This legislation amends the administrative code of the City of New York, the emergency tenant protection act of nineteen seventy-four, the emergency housing rent control law and the local emergency rent control act, in relation to rent increases after vacancy of a housing accommodation and to repeal certain provisions of the administration code of the city of New York and the emergency tenant protection act of nineteen seventy-four, that permits a landlord to increase the legally permissible rent by twenty percent (20%) upon vacancy of a rent-regulated apartment.

***As always, I am interested in your feedback. If you have legislative ideas or have an interest in certain bills that you would like for me to consider, please reach out to my office at (718) 788-7221 or

email me at <u>carrollr@nyassembly.gov</u>.

All Best,

Bobby