



NEWS FROM NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLYMAN **PETER J. ABBATE, JR.**

49th Assembly District, Brooklyn

Summer 2015

Street Repaving Update

After the rough winter we had, roads across the district were in desperate need of repair. I have had great success in my years as Assemblyman in making sure the infrastructure in the district is maintained. This year alone we have repaved and resurfaced portions of 8th Avenue, 19th Avenue, 71st Street, 72nd Street and 60th Street. There are many more planned repaving's still to be done this year and my office frequently passes along suggestions and complaints to the Department of Transportation.

If you have any suggestions, please reach out to my district office.



Dear Neighbor,

The Assembly achieved many important goals during the 2015 Legislative Session and remains committed to addressing the needs of working families and all New Yorkers.

The 2015 Legislative Session was remarkably successful, but more work needs to be done. In a time of economic challenges and political distress, the legislature worked with Governor Cuomo and the Senate Majority to achieve a balanced and on-time budget, and helped us to enact important legislation.

I am especially proud that we in the Assembly kept our promise to improve the education our children receive and that we dramatically increased the state's investment in affordable housing.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Abbate, Jr.

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CARE ACT PASSES TO HELP CAREGIVERS



The Caregiver Advise, Record and Enable (CARE) Act will require hospitals to provide caregivers with information, instruction and training necessary to meet the needs of patients after they are discharged. 4.1 Million New Yorkers provide care for those who need it outside of a medical setting. We are increasingly providing care at home for loved ones. This bill will ensure hospitals ask patients if they'd like to designate a caregiver and inform them of the patient's plan of care, including training on administering medications and operation of medical equipment.

HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES



“As Chairman of the Governmental Employees Committee for many years, I have built strong relationships with police officers. This is another example of their endless bravery and sacrifice.”

- Peter J. Abbate, Jr.

This past legislative session, I was honored to be the sponsor of a Resolution honoring the life of Detective Wen Jian Liu, one of the two NYPD patrolmen brutally murdered in December of last year. In a private ceremony, attended by Detective Liu's widow and parents, as well as Patrol Borough Brooklyn South Assistant Chief Steven Powers, Deputy Chief Charles Scholl, and 84th Precinct Commanding Officer Captain Sergio Centa and other elected officials, I presented the resolution to the family.

Resolution 169, which was passed on March 3rd, 2015, pays tribute to Detective Liu's life and is a testament to the outpouring of love and support from across New York State towards the victim's family. As someone who has spent their career helping police officers and their families, I know how important it is to extend a hand to those who have lost a member of their family and continue to show we are one city and one state in solidarity behind them.

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

In both large ways and small, it is important that we continue to support our veterans when they come home from combat. I am proud of the legislature this year for passing legislation that will have a significant impact on our veterans.

- For the second year in a row, the Assembly and Senate passed the Veterans Equality Act. The goal of this bill is simple: to honor those who have bravely served our country and to encourage them to return to New York and continue their public service as teachers, firefighters, police officers, and municipal and state employees. Currently, this privilege is only afforded to those who have served during particular periods of time, during specific military operations. By changing this we will allow all veterans, regardless of when they served, to have the same pension opportunities as those that served in these eras.
- The Assembly passed a law that provides refunds for veterans who paid a fee to obtain a veteran's notation on a state issued identification. It is important to show our gratitude by making everyday things a little easier and more affordable since our men and women in uniform do so much for our country, state and community. Currently, those who are eligible can have their status as a veteran designated on their driver's license or non-driver's ID card. However, a standard fee was applied to those who replaced their ID prior to the expiration. This bill would amend that and prohibit them from charging any fee. This would allow nearly 11,000 veterans to receive their refund.



Veterans Assistance Information 1-888-VETS-NYS (1-888-838-7697)

The New York State Department of Veterans Affairs is an excellent tool for the men and women in service, as well as their loved ones. They offer assistance for every aspect of life, including economic issues, employment, rehabilitation, medical treatment, home health care, education, and tax exemption.



Giving Back to Our Seniors

Every year, I am proud to put on events for the Senior Citizens in my district. For over twenty years, I have been a part in securing funding for the Senior Proms and Senior Picnics, cosponsored by other elected officials and the Neighborhood Improvement Association. These events give me an opportunity throughout the year to interact and gain a better perspective of the priorities of our seniors.



Assemblyman

**PETER
ABBATE, JR.**

END OF SESSION UPDATE 2015

Investing in Education For All Students

This year's 2015 Budget included a truly historic increase in education funding. In an unprecedented move, the legislature included an additional \$1.6 Billion in funding for our education system making the total amount \$23 Billion. In order to make sure that all our students are being given every opportunity, as the legislative session came to an end, the Assembly passed legislation that includes a significant investment in non-public schools. \$250 Million will be used to reimburse private and parochial schools for the cost of performing mandated services.

