



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLYMAN FELIX W. ORTIZ CHAIR, CITIES COMMITTEE CHAIR, PUERTO RICAN AND HISPANIC TASK FORCE

Legislative Highlights for the Week of January 27th, 2014

Sunset Park Gets Shout Out on Fox Business News

Fox Business News reporter Stuart Varney invited Assemblyman Ortiz to his weekly show, Varney & Company, to discuss Ortiz's new legislation banning "Google Glass" while driving. Ortiz and Varney discussed the implications that new technology can have on public safety. Ortiz is the author of the ban on the use of hand held cell phone and text messaging while driving and is now calling for a ban on a product that could be a huge distraction for drivers. Ortiz believes that government must intervene to protect the public from distracted drivers and will continue to fight for highway safety as technology advances.

Assemblyman Ortiz Meets with Newly-Elected Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan

As Chair of the Assembly Committee on Cities, Assemblyman Ortiz is reaching out and meeting with mayors across the state to discuss issue of importance to their communities. Topics being discussed include road and infrastructure repairs, financial sustainability and emergency services. Many cities are looking for long term solutions and Assemblyman Ortiz believes that by working together and consolidating resources, municipalities can be solvent and run efficiently and effectively.



Week 3 Legislative Introductions by Assemblyman Ortiz

Fighting for Immigrant Drivers Licenses A. 8498 allows individuals who are eligible to remain in the country under President Obama's Deferred Action to be eligible to apply for a driver's license.

Ensuring the Public Has Heat and Electricity after Storms A. 8387 directs large municipalities to conduct a study of their power supply capacity and within a year report its findings to the Governor and the Legislature. The study would test cities' ability to provide vital services to the public in the wake of disasters. No one should be without power for long periods of time after a storm as was the case with Hurricane Sandy and the Red Hook community.

Ortiz Calls on Congress to Ban Job Destroying Trade Agreement- "Fast Track" legislation for the massive Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is currently being negotiated between the United States and 11 Pacific Rim countries including Japan, Mexico, Malaysia, and Vietnam, which represent 40% of the world economy. The proposed agreement would destroy jobs, eliminate environmental and consumer protections, and allow international trade tribunals to overturn American laws. Assemblyman Ortiz called on Congress not to cede legislative authority to permit a process that could be destructive to our country and working families.

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