



New York State Assembly Weekly Report From Assistant Speaker Felix W. Ortiz

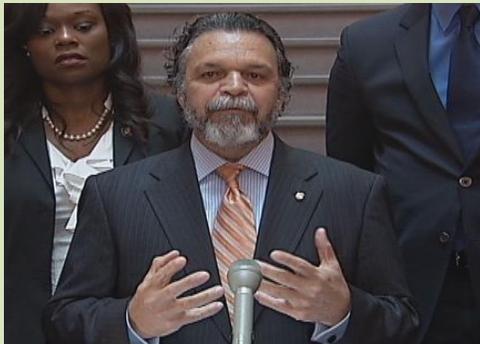


01/04/2016



Assistant Speaker Ortiz will continue to advocate for environmental issues across New York State this upcoming year. His legislation included the brownfield area clean-up bill (A.8063), establishing a tax on carbon emissions (A.8401), and a divestment bill (A.8011A).

From his first days as Assistant Speaker, Ortiz has been a strong advocate for the DREAM Act, which would benefit thousands of New Yorkers. Last year the Dream Act passed the Assembly twice and this year he will fight harder to make this dream a reality by passing it in the Senate.



Ortiz continues to be an advocate for preventing gun violence and the need for gun prevention. Last year, Ortiz, joined by members of the New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Caucus passed a resolution for the third year dedicating June as Gun Violence Awareness month. Ortiz has also introduced legislation to introduce gun liability insurance (A.5864) in order to protect victims of gun violence.

Assistant Speaker Ortiz introduced statewide legislation requiring the public to be informed of high sodium in restaurant chain foods through menu warnings (A.8266). He continues to support the New York City Department of Health proposal that chain restaurants label high salt foods.

If you have a comment or suggestion regarding the upcoming year and 2016 session, please send an email, "like" his Facebook page (FelixWOrtiz) and follow him on twitter (@felixwortiz).

Amid recent reports of fires and serious safety problems with the new rechargeable mechanized scooter known as the "hoverboard," Assistant Speaker Felix W. Ortiz is sponsoring legislation to require safer riding conditions, age restrictions, and expansion of existing state agency authority to regulate hoverboards. Owners of the boards in New York City are already prohibited from using them on sidewalks and in airports.



After a citywide uproar over the alleged ban on holiday celebrations at PS 169, the Department of Education clarified its policy on Christmas and other holiday observances in public schools. As he has done in past years, Ortiz dressed as Santa and reassured parents and students that holiday celebrations were all within the spirit of respecting each other's beliefs.



Ortiz, pictured here speaking to Community Board 10, will continue to be an advocate for the people of his district and the people of New York State. One of the many ways he helps his district is through community service. He will assist with toy distribution for the Three Kings celebration at Iglesias Redentor.



Assistant Speaker Ortiz, while speaking to Community Board 7, congratulated their efforts to tackle the issues facing the district. This discussion centered on affordable housing issues. Ortiz will continue to be an advocate for affordable housing and rent regulation concerns.

Assistant Speaker Ortiz has introduced legislation to regulate 'Fantasy Sports' wagering. This lucrative and unregulated industry must be controlled before consumers are hurt and to prohibit any illegality.

@felixwortiz

FelixWOrtiz

District Office
5004 4th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11220
718-492-6334
ortizf@assembly.state.ny.us

Albany Office
Room 731
Albany, NY 12248
518-455-3821

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