



Assemblywoman
**Aileen M.
Gunther**
*Reports to the
People*

FALL 2012

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Often, State government gets too bogged down in the politics of passing bills which have no chance of becoming law. I have worked hard to ensure that every piece of legislation I sponsored, that was passed by both houses of the Legislature, was signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo. I'm proud to report that this is the second year in a row I was among the top 10 Assembly members for passage of two-house bills.

Among my legislative accomplishments this session was bill A.397-A, which requires health insurance policies that cover annual physicals and well-care visits provide this coverage once per calendar year, as opposed to every 365 days. Prior to this being passed, if a student needed a physical before the 365 day period expired, that student might not be able to participate in certain school activities or functions. Now, a person can make a visit once per calendar year instead of a 365 day period.

Another one of my bills, A.10397-A, authorizes school districts to provide busing to students attending a school-sponsored, as opposed to universal, pre-kindergarten program. In rural areas such as ours, transportation can be an issue for parents wishing to send their children to school. Lack of transportation should not preclude students from attending pre-K, whether it is a universal pre-K or not.



Aileen reads to students at the Great Otisville Read Aloud at Minisink Valley Middle School.

SENIOR TOUR

Every year, I make visits to senior clubs across our district. We discuss issues that are most important to seniors. The two biggest concerns I heard among seniors were that many were having trouble paying for their prescriptions and that they were worried whether they would be able to afford to remain in their own homes. That's why, this year, I voted to restore funding for EPIC, which ensures that seniors will once again pay between \$3 and \$20

for each prescription beginning in 2013. I also voted to continue the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP), which assists people aged 60 and older who want to remain in their homes, and are not eligible for Medicaid.



Aileen speaks to seniors during her "Senior Tour"

IN THE COMMUNITY

I have always gotten to know my constituents best by participating in community events.

- Recently, my office partnered with State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli's office to bring the Unclaimed Funds booth to Sullivan and Orange counties. Over 150 people came to check if they were owed money from New York State.
- Another community event that will be taking place is the **Prescription Drug Take-Back Day** sponsored by The Recovery Center. It will be offered at locations across the district. For more information, call **845-794-8080**.
- I have also partnered with the Sullivan County Department of Public Health to bring a **Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Clinic** to my Monticello District Office. It will be held **October 2nd from 10 a.m. - 12 noon**. Call my office at **845-794-5807** for more details.



Aileen celebrates the Trout Season Opener

I appreciate hearing the opinions of all my constituents. If you go to <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Aileen-M-Gunther>, and click the link on the left side of the page, you can fill out a survey on issues affecting our area.

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