



ASSEMBLY MEMBER LATOYA JOYNER

77TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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JUNE 2015 - NEWSLETTER

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Assemblywoman Joyner Officially Opens Office



Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner officially opened her office to District 77 constituents – welcoming families, organizations and other stakeholders. From J.H.S. 22 Jordan L. Mott, Ms. Rivera’s cooking class (pictured left) assisted with food preparation and serving.

Honoring District 9 Teachers at P.S. 53



Focusing on supporting education and the advancement of our children, Assemblywoman Joyner joined Principal Dr. Collin Wolfe and UFT Chapter Leader Dr. Desline Brown for Basheer Quism School P.S. 53’s Teacher Appreciation Day Celebration.

The Assemblywoman honored District 9 teachers for their hard work and heroic determination, as they educate our community’s future leaders.

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LATOYA’S LINE

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner released the following statement regarding Mayor de Blasio’s plan to address current health and safety conditions in city shelters.

“Recognizing the needs of thousands of families who rely on the shelter system to meet their housing needs, Mayor de Blasio’s ‘Repair Squad’ is an important initiative that shows New York’s commitment to assisting those who are struggling to survive in a difficult housing market. As a partner in government, I look forward to working with the administration to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to quality affordable housing by strengthening the state rent regulation law and investing in the housing our families need.”

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District Office - Constituent Service Hours

When: Monday - Friday (10:00 AM-6:00 PM)

Where: 910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK (btwn E. 162 and 163 Streets)

ASSEMBLY FIGHTS TO PRESERVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, STRENGTHEN RENT REGULATIONS



Bronx, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D – Bronx, 77th AD), along with her Assembly colleagues, voted today to strengthen rent regulations and increase protections for tenants as New York State’s rent regulations are set to expire in June. The Assembly passed Assembly Bill A.7526 on May 19, as part of one-house rent regulations bill first introduced by Assembly Housing Committee Chairman Keith Wright (D – Manhattan, 70th AD).

Assemblywoman Joyner, along with other Assembly co-sponsors, voted to pass the legislation. Assembly Bill A. 7526 calls for stronger and more effective protections for tenants that rely on affordable housing. It will help to prevent vacancy deregulation, limit tenant harassment from landlords and ensure that affordable units remain affordable for Bronx and New York families. Keeping rent affordable even after major capital improvements or individual apartment improvements is also mandated in this bill. Rent increases, based on these improvements, will cease after the cost of the improvement is recovered.

The 77th Assembly District is ranked as the fourth largest, in terms of the number of rent regulated apartments in New York State. There are 30,043 apartments under rent regulation, which means that nearly three-quarters of all district residents live in rent regulated apartments.

Under the approved legislation, current regulations will be extended to June 15, 2019. The bill’s provisions are effective immediately. effect on April 1, 2016.

“Since being elected, strengthening current rent laws and preserving affordable housing for families that need it most has been my primary goal,” said Assemblywoman Joyner. “This legislation, supported by the Assembly Majority, does just that. No longer will tenants have to worry that housing improvements will remain an indefinite rental surcharge on their monthly bills or fear harassment from their landlords. In order to sustain and grow our current community, we need to make sure families and residents can continue to afford to live in it.”

-Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER URGES RENT GUIDELINES BOARD TO IMPOSE A RENT FREEZE



It is a very important time for affordable housing. As New York State’s rent regulation law is set to expire this June, Assemblywoman Joyner is working to strengthen these laws to protect the 30,000 apartments under rent regulation in our district. In Albany, she joined Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA), as they fight to keep housing affordable so families can continue to afford to live and work in our community. 2015 is an important year for tenants. Assemblywoman Joyner’s is fighting for the strongest possible protections for tenants – especially families who are already facing a daily struggle to make ends meet.

“There are more than 33,000 apartments under rent regulation in my district, which is the equivalent of nearly three-quarters of my constituents. As you can see, this is a very important issue for us Bronxites.

Having been a tenant my whole life, I am in support of renewing and strengthening rent regulations that expire this month. I know that the Rent Guidelines Board has proposed a rent increase up to 2 percent for one-year leases on rent-stabilized units. But, frankly board members that is unacceptable; we need a rent freeze.”

-Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner

ASSEMBLYWOMAN PASSES LEGISLATION TO HELP FAMILIES GAIN IMMEDIATE CLARITY OVER INMATE DEATHS

Assembly Bill A.7500 will help make inmate deaths, a difficult situation for so many families, easier to navigate

BRONX, N.Y. – No longer will families have to question or wait to hear details about the passing of a loved one that is behind bars. The New York State Assembly passed Assembly Bill A.7500 on May 28, which will provide for the notification of the next of kin of the death of an inmate. First introduced by Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D – Bronx, 77th AD), the legislation calls for the New York Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to promptly provide information to a prisoner’s family members should they pass while in custody.

According to DOCCS, there were a total of 501 inmate deaths during the four year period from 2009-2012. Eighty-one percent of inmate deaths were due to natural causes, which are defined as deaths by injury sustained in a fight or assault, complications from medical conditions, overdose, heart attacks and more.

Assembly Bill A.7500 calls for DOCCS to be responsive to an inmate’s next of kin or other designated person, who seeks additional information regarding the circumstances surrounding their passing. Currently, family members and loved ones are required to wait for the State Commission of Correction to investigate inmate deaths, a process that can take up to 18 months after an inmate death. This piece of legislation amends the state’s correction law by requiring that DOCCS relay all information relating to the death of the inmate – including all medical procedures used and preliminary and final cause of death.

New York State Senator Gustavo Rivera (D-Bronx, 33rd SD) has introduced Senate Bill S.5427 as companion legislation. This bill would take effect 120 days after the act has become law.

“Every inmate is someone’s mother or father, brother or sister, son or daughter. Their loved ones shouldn’t have to wait 18 months before hearing any details regarding the death of someone they care about that is in custody. This bill will help family members gain clarity around the circumstances and situations that affect their loved ones while in prison. It will speed up the process by which they obtain information as well as help families to grieve their loss.”

-Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER AND J.H.S. 22 JORDAN L. MOTT HOLD 1ST ANNUAL IMMIGRATION AID FORUM



ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO HER UPCOMING EVENTS

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| <p>Annual Housing Conference, in collaboration with City Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson and the Tenant, Block, & Neighborhood Council</p> | <p>When: Wednesday, June 17 from 5:30 PM-9:00 PM Where: Bronx Museum of the Arts (1040 Grand Concourse)</p> |
| <p>Meet & Greet with 1600 Sedgwick Ave Residents, in collaboration with State Senator Jose M. Serrano and Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson</p> | <p>When: Tuesday, June 23 from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM Where: Community Room (1600 Sedgwick Avenue)</p> |
| <p>Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner's invites the community to her 1st Annual Mill Pond Park Summer Stage</p> <p>The free event will include music, poetry and comedy. Refreshments will be served.</p> | <p>When: Saturday, July 11 from 1:00 PM-5:00 PM Where: Mill Pond Park (Near Major Deegan Exwy btwn E. 149 St and E. 153 St.)</p> |
| <p>Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner invites the community to obtain FREE civil legal services</p> <p>The event, which is held in conjunction with the Mobile Legal Help Center, a partnership with the New York Legal Assistance Group and the New York State Courts' Access to Justice Program, includes free legal assistance on issues related to housing and public/disability/health care benefits, immigration, domestic violence, and many more.</p> | <p>When: Friday, July 10 from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM Where: Near Assemblywoman Joyner's Community Office (910 Grand Concourse btwn E. 162 St. and E. 163 St.)</p> |
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