



Michaelle C. SOLAGES

Assemblywoman
22nd Assembly District

FALL 2019



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Dear Neighbor,

I hope you are well. I would like to share an update on the 2019 legislative session and recent events. This past session was truly productive. Whether we are talking about maternal and infant health, community representation and matters affecting the Belmont Park Racetrack, or Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs), I remain committed to advocating on the issues that matter most to our district. It remains my distinct privilege to serve the residents of the 22nd Assembly District. Thank you for reading our newsletter.

Sincejely,

Hon. Michaelle C. Solages

Assembly Member District 22

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SOLAGES' LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES

The 2019 Legislative Session adjourned with historic and progressive reforms. Assemblywoman Solages had a robust session, in which she passed thirteen bills through the New York State Assembly. Please review some of the passed bills below:

Improving the Southern State Parkway

Announcement of the passage of Assembly Bill A6761-A, mandating NY State Department of Transportation to coordinate with local governments to conduct a study of the configuration and signage at entrance/exit ramps on the Southern State Parkway.



Bolstering Protections for Small Businesses

Assemblywoman Solages drafted and passed Bill A2946 which establishes the Small Business Crime Prevention Services Program. This provides small businesses with information on strategies, best practices, and programs offering training and assistance in the prevention of crimes.



Reforming Industrial Development Agencies

Assemblywoman Solages championed legislation that requires the live streaming of Industrial Development Agency (IDAs) meetings. This law also requires IDAs to post the video recordings of all open meetings and public hearings to their website. In addition, Assemblywoman Solages passed Bill A2947 requiring notice to and confirmation by affected local taxing jurisdictions and school districts prior to the approval of projects by Industrial Development Agencies.



Increasing Protections for Women

Assemblywoman Solages passed legislation, which has been signed into law, making it professional misconduct for a provider to supervise or perform a pelvic exam on an anesthetized or unconscious patient without first obtaining the patient's informed consent, unless the pelvic exam is part of a medical procedure or the patient is unconscious and the pelvic exam is medically necessary and required for diagnosis.



2019 NYS Budget Highlights

With a Fiscal Year 2020 (FY2020) Enacted Budget of over \$175 billion, New York State is one of the driving economic forces of the United States. Each year, Assemblymember Solages' goal is to ensure that the state budget is reflective of the values in her district.

Due to the newly installed majority in the Senate, we had the opportunity this year to take steps to address the climate crisis, codify provisions of the Affordable Care Act, increase school aid funding by \$1 billion, and implement new criminal justice reforms. The Fiscal Year 2020 (FY 2020) Enacted Budget gives all New Yorkers a voice. From the public-school student who deserves every opportunity to achieve their goals, to the tenant whose quality of life has declined for far too long, to the hardworking parents struggling to afford childcare costs, and the families torn apart by the opioid crisis, the budget strives to improve the quality of life for all.



Bringing Universal Pre-K to Long Island



Prioritizing Education Funding

Assemblywoman Solages has long championed increasing education funding. The FY 2020 Enacted Budget will include \$27.86 billion in funding to General Support for Public Schools, an increase of \$1 billion, or 3.7 percent, over the 2018-19 Budget.

The spending plan also includes a \$618 million increase for Foundation Aid for a total of \$18.4 billion to help fund the state's obligation to our neediest schools. The approved budget allocates \$50 million for Community Schools Aid for a total of \$250 million in education funding.

Numerous studies prove the positive and long-lasting impacts of engaging children at an early age and its beneficial impacts on their behavioral, emotional, and intellectual development. This legislative session, Assemblywoman Solages, in coordination with Senator Martinez in the Senate, secured \$475,000 in funding for a Regional Pre-Kindergarten Technical Assistance Center (RTAC) on Long Island. The RTAC will implement best practices, tether Pre-K and early childhood education community programs to the K through 12 educational system, and serve as a model for New York State.

Tackling the Climate Crisis



Assemblywoman Solages supported the NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which is a comprehensive bill that sets critical environmental standards, including reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the use of renewable energy.

Restoring Medicaid



The approved budget restores \$550 million in Medicaid cuts, including \$222 million for a two percent rate increase for hospitals, a 1.5 percent increase for nursing homes, \$190.2 million for the 0.8 percent across-the-board Medicaid claims cuts, and \$137.8 million for the hospital Indigent Care Pool.

The plan also provides \$31 million for the restoration of pharmacy benefits, including \$18.7 million to preserve prescriber prevails provisions, and \$12.3 million to maintain coverage for over-the-counter (OTC) drugs and prevent copay increases.

Reforming Criminal Justice



Ensures the Right to a Speedy Trial: The budget also enacts a necessary reform of the speedy trial provisions in New York's Criminal Procedure Law. Under New York's statutory speedy trial law, the prosecution must generally be "ready for trial" within six months for a felony charge and 90 days for a misdemeanor charge.

Transforms the Discovery Process: The budget law also includes reforms to the laws governing the exchange of information in criminal cases. Under the new law, the prosecution will be required to provide discovery to the defense within 15 days after arraignment and will have to make certain disclosures before most negotiated guilty pleas.

Building a Park in South Valley Stream



The Path to the Park Project has been completed. After Superstorm Sandy, Assemblywoman Solages helped secure \$3.8 million to help transform a public greenway in South Valley Stream. The project enhances the community's resiliency against future storm events, promotes waterfront access and provides additional opportunities for recreation.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SOLAGES IN THE COMMUNITY



I Love My Parks Day: Volunteer Clean-Up

Assemblywoman Solages hosted over 200 volunteers at the Valley Stream State Park for the annual I Love My Parks Day.



Please Slow Down on Dutch Broadway

Assemblywoman Solages worked with Nassau County Legislator Carrie Solages and community leaders to announce an incentive to lower school speed limits on Dutch Broadway.



Valley Stream Train Station Tour

The Assemblywoman is advocating for major upgrades to the Valley Stream LIRR Station.



6th Annual Women of Distinction

Assemblywoman Michaelle C. Solages held her 6th Annual Women of Distinction Luncheon in March of 2019 to honor women in the 22nd Assembly District who dedicate their energy to bettering the community. Be sure to RSVP for the 7th annual event in March, 2020.



Join Us for Our Weekly Open Run/Walk

Assemblywoman Solages and New York Road Runners (NYRR) launched the first NYRR Open Run on Long Island at Valley Stream State Park on Sundays at 9 a.m. Through a grant sponsored by Assemblywoman Solages, residents can participate with the parking fee waived. These Open Runs are year long, rain or shine. Grab your sneakers and join the fun!



FREE smoke alarms with the Sound the Alarm Campaign

In collaboration with the American Red Cross in Greater NY, Assemblywoman Michaelle C. Solages is installing free smoke alarms. This is an ongoing initiative. Call the District Office to sign up for your FREE smoke alarm.

Celebrating Haitian Unity Day



Assemblywoman Solages and her colleagues organized the annual Haitian Unity Day celebration in Albany. This event celebrates the rich culture and the significant contributions Haitians have made to the State of New York and the US.

Advocacy for Temporary Protected Status Recipients



Following the House's passage of the American Dream and Promise Act, Assemblywoman Solages and her colleagues headed to D.C. to advocate for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) beneficiaries and to urge the U.S. Senate to pass this legislation.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Holiday Tree Lighting and End of Year Celebration

December 2019

Celebrate as we light the community tree! This outdoor celebration is free and open to the public.

RSVP is required for all events. For more information about events, concerns, or issues, please contact us at (516) 599-2972 or solagesm@nyassembly.gov.

**7th Annual Women of Distinction
March 2020**

**I Love My Parks Day
May 2, 2020**

**Community Health Fair
Spring 2020**

**Citizen Preparedness Training
Summer 2020**

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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Assemblywoman
**Michaelle C.
SOLAGES**

Legislative Highlights

Assemblywoman Solages: **KEEPING YOU INFORMED**

My Assembly website is available to keep you informed of legislation and other issues of interest to you and the community. You can visit the site at

<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Michaelle-C-Solages>

New Committee assignments:

Chair of the Task Force on Food, Farm and Nutrition Policy