

Assemblymember

DAVID I. WEPRIN



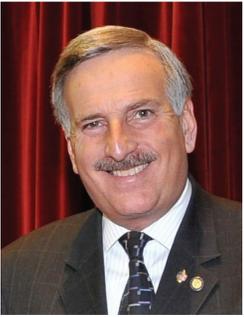
Reports to the Community

Summer 2019

Serving the partial or entire communities of:

Briarwood, Bellerose, Bellerose Manor, Fresh Meadows, Glen Oaks, Hillcrest, Hollis Hills, Holliswood, Jamaica Estates, Jamaica Hills, Oakland Gardens, Queens Village, Richmond Hill, South Richmond Hill, and Utopia.

A Message From DAVID I. WEPRIN



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you are enjoying the summer and staying cool during the hot weather. It continues to be my pleasure to represent

District 24 and advocate on your behalf in the state legislature.

I am excited to announce that this legislative session was the most productive in our state's history and once again many of my bills have passed both houses of the legislature and have been signed or await the Governor's signature. Notably, many of the bills directly address issues brought to light by local community members. This year both houses were able to pass laws guaranteeing adoptees access to their birth certificates, prohibiting discrimination based on religious attire or appearances, authorizing a study to expand the Long Island Motor Parkway, and holding utility companies responsible for damages. You can read more about these bills in this newsletter.

While the legislature is not in session, it is my hope that we will meet at the many community events in the district. If you have any questions or concerns about legislation or on any other issue that you would like to share with me, please do not hesitate to call my Fresh Meadows or Richmond Hill offices at 718-454-3027 or 718-805-2381 or email me at weprind@nyassembly.gov

Sincerely Yours,

*David I. Weprin
Member of Assembly*

Standing up to Hate in Floral Park



Assemblyman Weprin stands in solidarity against hate alongside elected officials and community members.

Assemblyman David I. Weprin stood with NY State Attorney General Letitia James, Congressman Gregory Meeks, State Senators Leroy Comrie, John C. Liu, Kevin Thomas, and Assemblymembers Clyde Vanel, Ed Braunstein, and Alicia Hyndman to denounce the hateful attack against Hindu Priest Swami Ji Harish Chander Puri, who was targeted for wearing religious clothing in Floral Park.

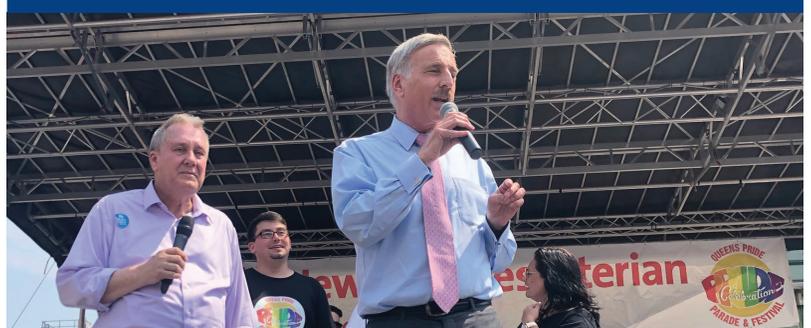
Celebrating Israel with Governor Cuomo



Assemblymember Weprin marches in the parade with Governor Andrew M. Cuomo.

In June, Assemblyman David I. Weprin marched in the Celebrate Israel Parade in Manhattan alongside Governor Andrew M. Cuomo. The parade began in 1965 and is the largest public celebration of Israel in the world.

Queens Pride Parade



Assemblyman Weprin speaks at Queens Pride Parade with Council Member Daniel Dromm.

Assemblyman David I. Weprin attended the 27th annual Queens Pride Celebration and Festival in Jackson Heights along with Council Member Daniel Dromm. The celebration is the second largest in New York City and was first held in 1993 to advocate for the LGBTQ community. Weprin also attended the NYC Pride March in Manhattan commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising.

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2019 Legislative Accomplishments

Working with his colleagues in the State Senate and State Assembly, Assemblyman Weprin was able to pass a number of important bills. Below you will find the bill numbers and a short description of the bills that were passed.

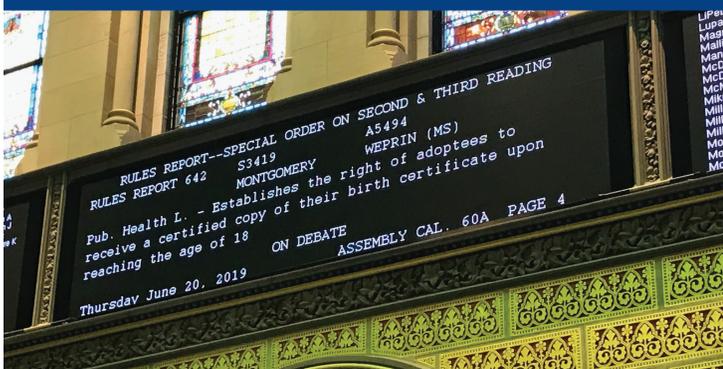
Aiding WTC Responders



Assemblyman Weprin speaks in the Assembly Chamber.

A8278 - Assemblyman David I. Weprin's and Senator James Gaughran's bill provides disability retirement benefits to civilian public employees who aided in the 9/11 recovery efforts. Many public employees suffering from illnesses and unable to work could not claim the same benefits as uniformed employees causing financial hardships.

Ensuring Adoptee Rights



Assembly tote board displays Adoptee Bill.

A5494 - Assemblyman David I. Weprin's and Senator Velmanette Montgomery's Clean Bill of Adoptee Rights passed after a decades long push by advocates and lawmakers. The legislation establishes the right of adoptees to receive a certified copy of their birth certificate upon reaching the age of 18. The legislation restores important civil rights to adult adoptees such as their right to access information that non-adopted persons have a legal right to obtain. In New York State, an adoptee cannot access his or her original birth certificate unless the adoptee goes through a judicial proceeding which does not guarantee that access will be granted.

Holding Public Utilities Responsible



Assemblyman Weprin speaks alongside Senator John C. Liu, Assemblyman Ed Braunstein, civic leaders, and residents at 188th Street.

A5254 - Assemblyman David I. Weprin's and Senator John C. Liu's bill requires public utility companies to repair or replace residential sewer and water pipes that they damaged. The legislation changes the current law which assigns responsibility to homeowners for repairs, regardless of who caused the damage, and was inspired by the plight of dozens of Queens homeowners who found themselves responsible for costly damages caused by Verizon.

Extending the LIMP Trail



Assemblyman Weprin speaks alongside Senator John C. Liu, Council Member Barry S. Grodenchik at Alley Pond Park.

A6413 - Assemblyman David I. Weprin's and Senator John C. Liu's bill commissioning a study of a proposed extension of the Long Island Motor Parkway trail, which runs through Fresh Meadows, Oakland Gardens, and Queens Village, awaits the Governor's signature. The historic parkway originally ran from Queens to Ronkonkoma but currently only small sections remain in use serving pedestrians and bicyclists.

Safeguarding Religious Freedom



Assemblyman Weprin stands alongside Senator John C. Liu, Assemblymembers Michael Miller, Alicia Hyndman, & Daniel Rosenthal, Council Member Adrienne Adams, and District Leaders Gurdip Singh Narula & Neeta Jain.

A4204 - Assemblyman David I. Weprin's and Senator John C. Liu's bill prohibiting discrimination against religious attire and appearances was signed into law on 8/9/19. The bill was first introduced by Weprin in 2011 and is intended to protect the religious freedom of all New Yorkers in the workplace. It was inspired by the case of Kevin Harrington, a Sikh subway operator for the MTA, who was ordered to remove his turban or deface it with an MTA logo.

Additional Legislation that Passed Both Houses

A3985 - Establishes a new crime of staging a motor vehicle accident for the purposes of committing insurance fraud. Signed into law 8/8/19.

A4000 - An act to amend the administrative code of the city of New York to prevent banning members of the police force from wearing hearing assistance devices who can fully perform police duties with the use of such device.

A4336 - Requires that an un-redacted report regarding the death of any inmate be issued to the governor, the chairman of the Assembly Committee on Correction, and the chairman of the Senate Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction.

A6849 - Amends the Correction Law to make it clear that visiting legislators may bring their staff into correctional facilities.

A7647 - Amends the Correction Law to authorize the pre-arraignment detention of arrested individuals in a county jail facility, when done as part of a plan for an off-hours arraignment part established by the Chief Administrative Judge.

A7751 - Amends the Criminal Procedure Law to allow a trial court to suspend jury deliberations for up to three days (excluding weekends and holidays) in appropriate cases.

A7944 - Amends the Correction Law, in relation to the designation of a substitute jail for programmatic purposes, allowing for an inmate's transfer between local correctional facilities for participation in beneficial programming.

A7994 - Establishes an arts fund to receive contributions for the support of the New York State Council on the Arts through a personal income tax return check-off.

A8138 - An act to amend the real property tax law, in relation to the determination of adjusted base proportions in special assessing units which are cities cap the maximum class growth rate at zero percent for fiscal year 2020.

Assemblyman Weprin in the community

Richmond Hill Mammogram Van



Assemblyman David Weprin stands with the Mammogram Van.

Assemblyman David I. Weprin hosted the American Italian Cancer Foundation Mammogram Van at his Richmond Hill District Office. Local women were able to receive free breast cancer screenings and health education services. Screenings are important because it's estimated that there will be nearly 270,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer in 2019.

Measles Immunization Testing



Assemblyman David Weprin receives a Measles Titer Test.

In May, Assemblyman David I. Weprin co-sponsored a measles immunization testing event with Kamin Health at the Young Israel of Jamaica Estates in response to the measles outbreak in New York. Hundreds of people participated and the Assemblyman received an MMR titer blood test to ensure that he had retained immunity to measles since his initial immunization.

Disability Pride Parade



Assemblyman Weprin stands with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities Commissioner Victor Calise and New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli.

Assemblyman David I. Weprin marched in the Disability Pride Parade with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities Commissioner Victor Calise and New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. The parade has been held each year since 2015 to celebrate and raise awareness for people with disabilities.

Alley Pond Park Compost Giveback



Assemblyman David Weprin and staff give out compost to local residents at Alley Pond Park.

Assemblyman David I. Weprin in partnership with Council Member Barry S. Grodenchik and the Department of Sanitation distributed 300 bags of compost made from New York City organic waste at Alley Pond Park in Queens Village. Food scraps comprise about 20% of our City's waste and creating compost from this material reduces landfill disposal costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

Celebrating Academic Success



Assemblyman Weprin addresses students at P.S. 188Q Kingsbury in Oakland Gardens.

In June, Assemblyman Weprin joined the students of P.S. 188Q Kingsbury in Oakland Gardens at their graduation ceremony as they took an important step forward in their academic careers. Weprin reminded the students that their continued successes will help them become future leaders and presented certificates to the outgoing class in recognition of their hard work.



Assemblyman Weprin addresses the graduates at Queensborough Community College.

In May, Assemblyman Weprin addressed the Queensborough Community College Class of 2019 at the 58th Commencement Ceremony on the school's athletic field. Nearly 2,600 students graduated from the college and many will continue their studies in New York and around the country. This was the first graduating class under interim President Timothy G. Lynch, Ph.D.

Assemblyman Weprin in the community

Queens Centers for Progress Ribbon Cutting



Assemblyman Weprin along with Senator Leroy Comrie and Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal, cut the ribbon on QCP's renovation.

In July Assemblyman David I. Weprin, along with Senator Leroy Comrie and Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal, cut the ribbon on Queens Centers for Progress' newly renovated Adult Center lobby in Jamaica. Queens Centers for Progress was founded in 1950 as United Cerebral Palsy of Queens and now has a staff of over 600 and serves a variety of developmental disabilities.

Community Board 8 Health Fair



Assemblyman David Weprin with James Gallagher Jr., Yolanda Delacruz Gallagher, and staff from NY Presbyterian Hospital.

In July, Assemblyman David I. Weprin joined Community Board 8 in Cunningham Park for their 9th annual Health Fair. The event provides residents with access to many community health organizations and important information.

Hilltop Village Meeting



Assemblyman Weprin speaks to shareholders alongside Co-op President Marc Haken.

Assemblyman David I. Weprin addressed the shareholders at the Hilltop Village Co-op #4 meeting in May alongside President Marc Haken to inform them about the programs and services provided by the City and State. Hilltop Village Cooperatives consists of 900 housing units divided into 4 sections.

Walkill Correctional Facility Visit



Assemblyman Weprin pets a retired race horse with an inmate.

In June, Assemblyman David I. Weprin, in his capacity as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Correction, visited the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation's (TRF) Second Chance vocational program at the Walkill Correctional Facility. TRF has saved thousands of retired thoroughbred racehorses while providing incarcerated individuals with important skills.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248



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Jonathan Narain Street Co-naming



New Correction Officer Jonathan Narain Way street sign.

Assemblyman Weprin was honored to join Council Member Adrienne Adams for a street co-naming memorializing Correction Officer Jonathan Narain, who was killed in an accident in Richmond Hill. A section of 111th Street between Liberty Avenue and 107 Avenue will serve as a reminder of Officer Narain's legacy.