



News from *Assemblyman* **Andrew Hevesi**



Dear Neighbor,

As we enter the fall season, I wanted to share a few updates from around the district, highlight recent investments in our community, and provide a review of this year's legislative session.

Whether advocating for children and families in Albany or working alongside neighbors here in Queens, serving the 28th Assembly District remains an honor and I am truly grateful for your partnership.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact my office if we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Andy Hevesi
28th Assembly District

Around the District



Throughout the summer, Assemblymember Hevesi continued meeting with residents, attending community events, and working alongside neighborhood organizations throughout the 28th Assembly District.



Investing in Our Community

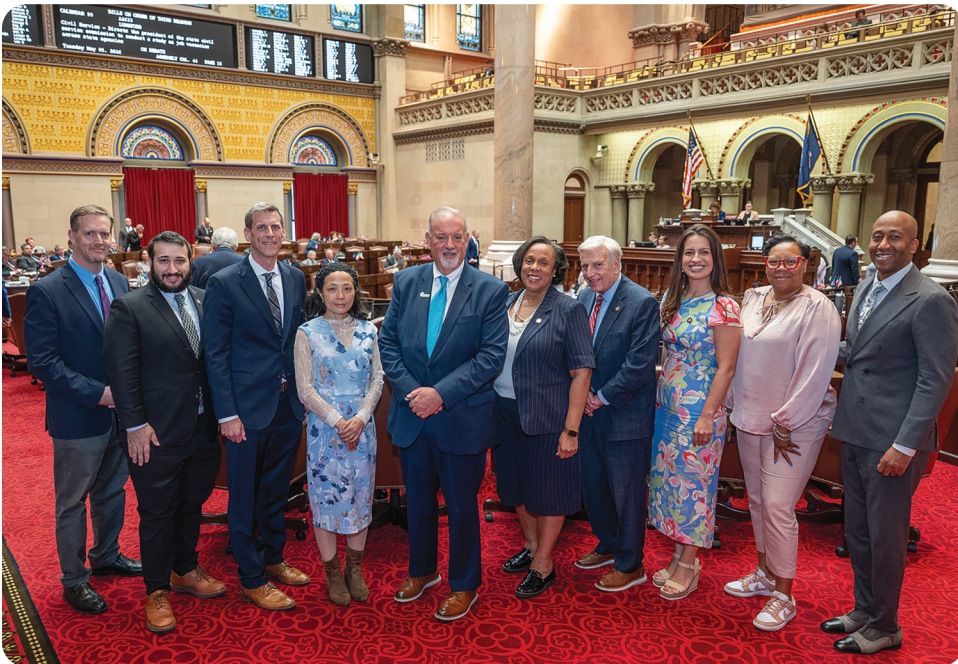
This year, Assemblymember Hevesi helped secure hundreds of thousands of dollars in funding for local programming, and millions on top of that in capital funding for local organizations serving the 28th Assembly District. These investments support neighborhood improvement of our public spaces and local institutions that serve our community every day.

Continuing Our Partnership with ACE Programs

This year, Assemblymember Hevesi has renewed his partnership with ACE Programs. This will support ACE's work across the 28th Assembly District, including another year of neighborhood cleanings, litter removal, general maintenance, and workforce development.



Since launching in 2024, ACE crews have continually logged more than 200 hours of work in our neighborhoods **each month**, to remove thousands of pounds of litter while providing employment opportunities for individuals transitioning out of homelessness.



Queens Day in Albany, 5/5/26.

Supporting Queens

In January 2027, Assemblyman Hevesi will be the longest serving member/ranking member of the Queens Assembly Delegation. This year, the Assemblymember coordinated with his Queens colleagues and pushed for regional budget priorities that have already **resulted in tens of millions of dollars** in State funding for Queens-specific organizations and capital projects.

These investments support cultural institutions, workforce development, food insecurity, education, parks, infrastructure, and neighborhood organizations throughout the borough. The Assemblymember is looking forward to spearheading future efforts with his colleagues to enhance affordable housing, public housing, storm resiliency, and other boroughwide priorities.

Stay Connected

Our office continues to host neighborhood cleanups, community events, resource fairs, and other public programs throughout the year. To receive announcements about upcoming events, office updates, and community resources, email hevesia@nyassembly.gov and ask to be added to our mailing list.



2026 Legislative Session in Review

As Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Children & Families, Assemblymember Hevesi advanced legislation this year focused on strengthening Family Court, improving child safety, supporting survivors of domestic violence, expanding services for children with complex needs, and protecting working families.

Six bills introduced by Assemblyman Hevesi passed both the Senate and Assembly this session. One has already been signed into law and the following 5 are awaiting to be called up by Governor Hochul to become law.

A.6194-C / S.5998-C – Kyra’s Law

Following the tragic and preventable murder of 2-year-old Kyra Franchetti, whose father was granted unsupervised visitation despite evidence that he posed a substantial risk to her life, Assemblymember Hevesi worked with Kyra’s mother, Jacqueline Franchetti, to craft legislation to ensure that no other parent has to endure such unimaginable pain and suffering.



Assemblyman Hevesi speaks aside Senator James Skoufis, his Senate counterpart in carrying Kyra’s Law.

This bill, titled “Kyra’s Law,” will equip courts with a clearer legal framework to promote the safety of children in child custody decisions, requiring judges to more closely evaluate allegations of abuse, and incorporating a review of child safety risk factors. To ensure judges are well-equipped to carry out the provisions of Kyra’s Law, the bill expands current judicial training requirements. It also includes what would be the first civil definition of “coercive control” in New York State statute, an important recognition of this insidious form of domestic violence.

Assemblyman Hevesi has great admiration for Jacqueline Franchetti’s courage and tenacity and was honored to work on this vital legislation in memory of Kyra.



Assemblyman Hevesi debates Supervised Visitation on the Assembly Floor.

A.65 / S.9498 – Statewide Supervised Visitation

One of the most pressing needs consistently raised by Family Court Judges and advocates throughout New York State is the dire need for professional supervised visitation for parents and children in custody cases.

Professionally operated supervised visitation allows children to safely maintain relationships with a parent when courts determine that visitation should only occur under the supervision of a trained professional, including cases involving domestic violence, child abuse, or other safety concerns. **Yet more than half of New York’s counties currently have no access to these services**, while many existing programs face long waitlists and are cost prohibitive for most families.

This legislation establishes New York’s first statewide Supervised Visitation Initiative through the Office of Victim Services, expanding services where none currently exist, increasing capacity in current operations, improving language access, reducing financial barriers, and helping to eliminate family court backlog throughout New York State.

A.3264-B / S.7738-A – Safe Shelter Act

Domestic violence shelters too often are forced to leave beds empty because single survivors of abuse are often placed in rooms designed for families / double occupancy. Under current funding rules, shelters are financially penalized for these arrangements through a payment for heads in beds only and are having trouble accommodating the needs of single survivors and staying financially solvent.

Each year, the biggest category of individuals seeking domestic violence shelter are single adults with no children. In 2025, about 55% of hotline callers seeking shelter placement were single adults with no children, but only 17% of those callers were placed in shelter.

The **Safe Shelter Act** authorizes shelters to receive full reimbursement when a survivor must be housed alone because no single-occupancy room is available, helping remove a longstanding barrier identified by domestic violence providers across New York.

This legislation has been vetoed in the past, and amended this year to phase in the reimbursement schedule to ensure the safety and security of both families and single survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking.

(New York City’s 24-hour HOPE Hotline, operated by Safe Horizon)

A.7603 / S.7978 – Support for Children with Complex Needs

Children with complex behavioral, developmental, medical, and mental health needs often rely on multiple state agencies for services, yet families are frequently left navigating disconnected systems, experiencing prolonged delays and uncertainty. Youth with serious emotional disturbance and multiple diagnoses are languishing in hospitals, at home, and in other settings inadequate to meet their needs.

This is not the fault of any one institution, but rather a systemic failure of the state’s mental health, health, and social services agencies to respond to and connect young people with appropriate and timely care.



Co-chairing a roundtable to support youth in crisis.

Estimates from social services officials, hospitals, and community-based providers show that over 200 children with cross-system needs experience unnecessary hospital stays each year after the time they are medically cleared for discharge. This results in months of being isolated from family and peers, with no access to outside space or play settings, no normal daily routines, and disrupted education.

A.7603 will mandate rapid evaluation and diagnostic studies upon referral of a child to the Council on Children and Families Interagency Resolution Unit to determine what services will allow the child to safely and successfully return home or to an appropriate residential placement in or near their own community. The bill will also give the Interagency Resolution unit the power to overrule prior agency decisions in an effort to better serve these children.

A.8248 / S.8205 – DOI Oversight of ACS

Developed alongside the New York City Department of Investigation, Assemblymember Hevesi introduced this legislation to strengthen independent oversight of New York City’s child welfare system. Current law allows the State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) to outright deny, delay or limit DOI’s access to records needed to investigate timely allegations involving misconduct, violence, abuse, contraband, and other serious incidents in ACS-operated or contracted facilities.

This legislation removes this unnecessary and dangerous barrier by allowing DOI the same access that currently the NYPD and local District Attorneys have, which is necessary to conduct timely, independent investigations, strengthening transparency, accountability, and protecting our children.



Assemblyman Hevesi discusses A.8248-A on Spectrum News NY1.

Preserving Child Care for Working Families

This year, Assemblymember Hevesi also continued leading efforts to move New York State toward Universal Child Care, including expansions to New York’s Child Care Assistance Program and eliminating state policies that tie child care assistance to a parent’s exact work schedule.

Many working parents – including those employed in retail, hospitality, health care, the gig economy, and other industries – work variable or unpredictable schedules that change from week to week. Under previous State policy, those changes could have reduced a family’s child care assistance because eligibility was tied to the exact hours a parent was scheduled to work.



Assemblymember Hevesi continued to spearhead legislation (A.4986A of 2023, 2024) to eliminate this requirement, continuing to advocate for the policy even after the bill was vetoed by Governor Hochul on multiple occasions.

These efforts culminated this year in an agreement between New York State and New York City preserving the City’s longstanding flexible child care voucher model, protecting coverage for more than 100,000 families while work continues toward a permanent statewide solution.

New York State Assembly, Albany, NY 12248



News From
Assemblyman
Andrew HEVESI

Fall 2026

PRSRT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NEW YORK
PERMIT NO. 75



Constituent Services

Our office is available to assist residents with matters involving New York State agencies and programs, including SNAP, Medicaid, unemployment insurance, transportation, housing, consumer issues, and other constituent concerns.



District Office:
70-50 Austin Street, Suite 114
Forest Hills, NY 11375
718-263-5595
hevesia@nyassembly.gov

Albany Office:
Room 626, Legislative Office Bldg.
Albany, NY 12248
518-455-4926