



Assemblymember
Robert C. Carroll
 Assembly District 44

February 1, 2019

Greetings --

The passing of long stymied progressive legislation continued this week in Albany. The Assembly and Senate both passed a package of common sense gun legislation and the long-awaited Child Victims Act, which I was proud to cosponsor. Most of these bills have been passed in previous years by the Assembly, and this year the Senate finally took them up as well. Together, the gun safety package and the Child Victims Act will help ensure the safety and protection of our children and all New Yorkers. See below for details on the legislation that was passed. Also this week I spoke at two rallies in support of mass transit funding and the MTA came to Albany to testify at the Joint Hearing on Transportation where I had the opportunity to ask questions.

Rallying for Mass Transit and the Budget Hearing with the MTA:

On Tuesday I stood with advocacy groups like Riders Alliance, StreetsPAC, Tri-State Transportation Campaign and others at a rally in Albany to lay out the case for the importance of congestion pricing and other legislative measures that I am introducing this session in the capital.

[View my remarks at that event here:](#)



Then on Wednesday, the MTA came to the Joint Assembly & Senate Budget Hearing on Transportation. [Read the Daily News piece on the hearing here](#) and see my two rounds of remarks below:





I talk about this issue frequently because, while in this first month of the legislative session we have done many important things, the most consequential thing remaining for the legislature to accomplish is to fix the MTA because our mass transit system is the lifeblood of our city and something that benefits all New Yorkers no matter their socio-economic class. The only way we are going to fix it is for legislature to create at-a-minimum, a \$1.6 billion dedicated revenue stream so that we can upgrade our signals and switches and modernize our rolling stock. If, like me, you think you are annoyed by weekend and late-night shutdowns and signal malfunctions now, wait until the subway apocalypse happens when cars that are 60 years old, switches that are 80 years old and substations that can't produce enough power to run the system start to have catastrophic failures and are no longer able to be pieced back together – this will happen if we don't take the necessary steps now to make sure the system is fully funded. Our subway system is deteriorating to a point of no return while at the same time we need more New Yorkers than ever to take the bus and subway to make our streets more livable and air more breathable.

[As I said at the hearing and at a press conference yesterday about the importance of making our subways stations accessible to all](#), any congestion pricing fee should not be linked to an arbitrary cap of \$15 Billion because that will not be nearly enough to cover all of the MTA's needs and will create a protracted funding war between the city and state because under the Governor's current proposal the city and state are supposed to split the remaining capital cost after the initial \$15 billion investment by the state for congestion pricing. The likely cost of modernizing our bus and subway system ([Andy Byford's Fast Forward plan](#)) will conservatively cost between \$40 and \$60 Billion. This is in addition to recurring capital costs for routine maintenance, purchase of rolling stock and legacy projects like east side access and finishing the 2nd Avenue Subway. Much more on this through the budget process so look for updates from me as the session continues.

[To read more about my views on this issue, check out today's article and video from Streetsblog:](#)

Bobby's Blue Bombshell: Cuomo's Congestion Pricing Numbers are 'Bullshit'

By Gersh Kuntzman | Feb 1, 2019 |  2



This is a man calling "bullshit" on the governor. Photo: Clarence Eckerson Jr.

“Let me be blunt. The \$15-billion number in the governor’s budget is bullshit.”

Those aren't the words of a congestion pricing opponent — they're the words of Assembly



Gun Safety Legislation:

I was proud to cosponsor The Red Flag Bill ([A.2689](#)), which will allow a court to issue an extreme risk protection order (ERPO), prohibiting a person who is determined to be a threat to themselves or others from purchasing or possessing a firearm for up to one year. The petitioner, who could be a family member, law enforcement officer or school administrator, would be required to file a sworn application describing the circumstances and justification for the request. Following an initial hearing, the court may grant a temporary order if there is reasonable cause to believe the individual is likely to engage in conduct that would result in serious harm to him or herself or others. At a subsequent hearing, the court may issue a final order which would last for one year.

Additional measures included in the gun reform package will ensure comprehensive background checks for gun owners in New York State, will keep guns out of teacher's hands, and illegal guns and modification off the street. The first measure, [A.2690](#), will establish a waiting period of up to 30 days before a gun can be sold to an individual who has not cleared a background check. The second background check measure, [A.1213](#), will require out of state citizens who have homes in New York and apply for a firearm license to waive the confidentiality of their home state mental illness records. This will allow New York State law enforcement to review those records when considering a firearm license application in the same manner that they review the New York mental health records of applicants. [A.1715-A](#) will prohibit a school administrator from arming teachers or other school employees in K-12 schools in New York State. Under current law, guns are prohibited on school grounds unless authorized by a school administrator. This bill will ban administrators from allowing guns in schools with the exception of school resource officers, law enforcement or security guards. [A.2684](#) will prohibit the possession, manufacture, transport, shipment and sale of devices like the bump stock that accelerate the firing rate of firearms so they operate in a similar manner as machine guns. Banned devices include trigger cranks and other rapid-fire modification devices. Under current New York State law, attaching such a device to a firearm is illegal because once attached, the weapon is considered a machine gun. However, there is no restriction on the sale or possession of bump stocks or other similar devices that are

not attached to a firearm. [A.2685](#) will create the "Municipal Gun Buyback Program." The program, which would be administered by the New York State Police, would allow individuals to report and turn in illegal firearms. Those participating would be immune from certain criminal possession charges, and would be able to collect a monetary reward.

Child Victims Act:

I am proud to have cosponsored [A.2683](#), The Child Victims Act. This legislation has been long championed by the Assembly, and was finally passed by both the Assembly and Senate. This bill will help survivors of childhood sexual abuse seek justice by allowing them more time to pursue legal recourse as adults. It provides an additional five years to seek criminal charges against perpetrators by changing when the statute of limitations clock begins to run. Under the bill, the five year period within which charges could be brought would not start until the victim reaches age 23, rather than 18. For civil cases involving sex offenses against a child, the statute of limitations would be tolled and a lawsuit by a victim would be permitted up until the victim turns 55 years of age. The legislation includes a one year look-back window for survivors who are not able to seek recourse under current law. This one-year look-back window would take effect six months after the bill is signed into law. The measure would treat public and private entities equally by removing the current notice of claim provisions for public entities, and further clarify that public and private entities are subject to the look-back window. In recognition of the fact that many victims have already been forced to wait years to access the justice system, the bill would give revived cases a trial preference so they move forward more quickly in court. Judges would also be required to undergo additional training concerning crimes involving the sexual abuse of minors.

Town Hall on Proposed Men's Shelter on Coney Island Avenue:

The New York City Department of Homeless Services is siting a shelter on Coney Island Avenue later in the Spring and I am co-hosting an information session with them for the public on February 7th. Please come hear about the proposal – both the city and the service provider, Black Veterans for Social Justice will be on hand to make a presentation and to hear from the community. So if you live in the neighborhood and have concerns and want to learn more, we want to make sure your voice is heard. See details for the meeting on the flyer below:



Coney Island Avenue

Community Conversation

Please join the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS) and Black Vets for Social Justice for a community conversation moderated by Assembly Member Robert Carroll regarding new transitional housing on Coney Island Avenue.

Date: Thursday, February 7th, 2019

Time: 6 P.M. – 8 P.M.

Location: JHS 62-700 Cortelyou Rd, Brooklyn, NY 11218



My Education Forum:



Assemblymember Robert Carroll

hosts an



EDUCATION FORUM

Wednesday, February 13

Doors open at 6:30 pm

PS 230, Lower School

425 McDonald Avenue *(by the Church Ave F/G)*



- **State Education Budget and Fiscal Equity**
- **Assemblymember Carroll's Dyslexia Funding Initiative**
- **Testing, Diversity, and Title I Funding**
- **Q&A**

To RSVP or for additional information on this event or any other local or state issue, please call Assemblymember Robert Carroll's District Office at 718-788-7221 or CarrollR@nyassembly.gov.

See you around the Neighborhood,
Bobby

Assemblymember Robert Carroll

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