



Assemblyman **Simcha Eichenstein**



**Spring 2021
Update**

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Dear Neighbor:

As I have entered my second term as your representative in the New York State Assembly, I would like to thank all my wonderful constituents and neighbors for believing in me and trusting me to advocate on your behalf once again. I am truly humbled and honored to be serving as the Assembly member of the 48th District and I hope I will continue to serve you with distinction.

When I was first elected to become your representative in Albany, no one could have dreamed of what was to come. The pandemic hit our communities hard and many of us are still reeling. There has been way too much grief, too much suffering, and too much economic loss. Each of us was deeply affected in our own personal way.

But as we begin to see light at the end of the tunnel with the rollout of the vaccine, and continue towards recovering from the effects of the pandemic, I will continue to work tirelessly on your behalf, both in Albany and here in Brooklyn, where my dedicated staff is ready to assist you in every way.

I'm proud of what we have accomplished so far. In my role as Assemblyman, I have been working hard promoting initiatives and legislation that impact our communities. I believe that by working together, we can accomplish tremendous things for the common good. However, I continue to believe that my most important responsibility is for my staff and I to be available to help you in any which way during this great time of need. I hope to continue to serve you with honor and integrity.

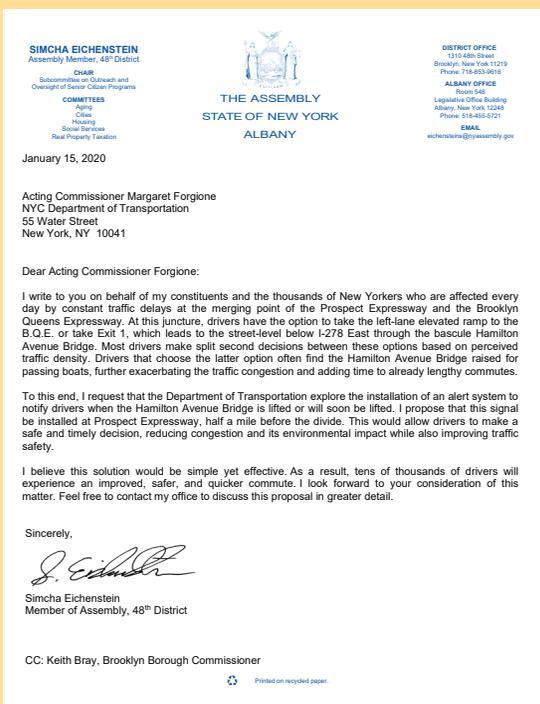
As always, feel free to reach out to me or my staff with any concerns or comments. We can be reached at: EichensteinS@nyassembly.gov or you can call us at: 718-853-9616.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy summer,

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, 48th District

Assemblyman Eichenstein to DOT: Install Signal on Prospect Expressway to Indicate When Hamilton Avenue Drawbridge is Lifted

After hearing from many frustrated constituents, including first responders, who were stuck in standstill traffic after taking the Hamilton Avenue exit at the end of the Prospect Expressway, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein penned a letter to the NYC Department of Transportation Commissioner, requesting the installation of a flashing light alert system on the Prospect Expressway. This flashing light signal, half a mile prior to the divide, would alert northbound drivers when the Hamilton Avenue drawbridge is lifted or will soon be lifted, allowing them to avoid lengthy and unnecessary traffic delays.



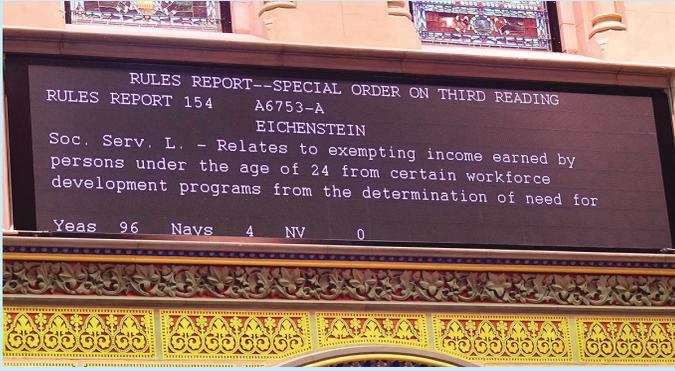
Saving the Life of a Newborn

During the Jewish holiday of Sukkot, Assemblyman Eichenstein was contacted about the critical condition of a 7-day-old baby who was in desperate need of immediate surgery due to a rare malformation of her esophagus. Despite time being of the essence and the family's willingness to pay for the transport, the insurance company denied authorization for the baby's transfer to Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Against all odds, Assemblyman Eichenstein intervened at the highest levels of bureaucracy and got this decision reversed. Today, that baby is a healthy one-year-old!

Assemblyman Eichenstein Joins Forces with Congressman Jerry Nadler to Help Save A Life

When a community member reached out to Assemblyman Eichenstein to help save the life of a visitor from overseas, Assemblyman Eichenstein jumped into action. The young man had traveled to New York to undergo a difficult heart transplant but the lifesaving procedure was being postponed due to red tape, his insurance, and visa status. Realizing that the situation was critical, and the procedure needed to be expedited, Assemblyman Eichenstein immediately contacted Congressman Jerry Nadler and asked for his assistance. A special request was then made to the executive offices at the hospital, which resulted in the surgery being approved, and the transplant successfully performed.

Numerous Highlights and Achievements Du



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein's Summer Youth Employment Program Legislation Is Now Law

As a result of Assemblyman Eichenstein's legislation, SYEP income is now exempt from a family's household income as it relates to public assistance. This is a huge win for thousands of young adults who can now participate in SYEP without the risk of their family losing public assistance benefits.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein's Hate Crimes Bail Reform Legislation Enacted Into Law

Amid the dramatic increases of hate crimes across the state and upon passage of the 2019 bail reform legislation, Assemblyman Eichenstein authored legislation that will allow judges to require bail for hate crime offenders. This vital legislation, passed as part of the 2020 budget, will keep violent hate crime offenders off the streets until trial, thus making our communities safer.

THE YESHIVA WORLD

May 18, 2020

Eichenstein to Governor Cuomo: We Must Evaluate Possibility of Safe Camps This Summer

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Led the Battle to Open Summer Camps Last Year

Months prior to the summer season, Assemblyman Eichenstein organized a coalition of camp directors and medical doctors to advocate for the opening of summer camps. The panel devised a comprehensive plan providing guidance on allowing sleep-away and day camps to open safely. After months of negotiation and relentless advocacy for the benefit of summer campers, day camps were permitted to open in New York State. That decision was a tremendous relief to day campers and their parents.

When United Healthcare Dropped Local Pediatricians From Its Network, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Fought Back and Prevailed!



Assemblyman Eichenstein hosted a meeting with United HealthCare CEO Pat Celli and prominent local physicians. After a successfully negotiated agreement, United HealthCare continues to accept our local doctors.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Secures an Additional 1,500 Summer Youth Employment Slots For Young Adults in His District

"Thank you Assemblyman Eichenstein for utilizing your skills to deliver to the community an additional 1,500 SYEP slots this summer," said Dov Oustatcher, Director of Summer Youth Employment at Council of Jewish Organizations of Flatbush. "We are thankful to have served 1,500 additional young adults with the program this summer due to your efforts."

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Succeeds in His Efforts to Include Summer Camps in \$25 Million Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes Program

During Assemblyman Eichenstein's first year in office, he spearheaded a campaign to include summer camps as eligible to receive funding for security upgrades under the Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes Grant Program. This incredible achievement ensures additional security measures to help institutions protect the safety of our children. Summer camps are now eligible to obtain this most critical security funding.



Assemblyman Eichenstein hosts workshop for camp directors on how to apply for the grant funding.

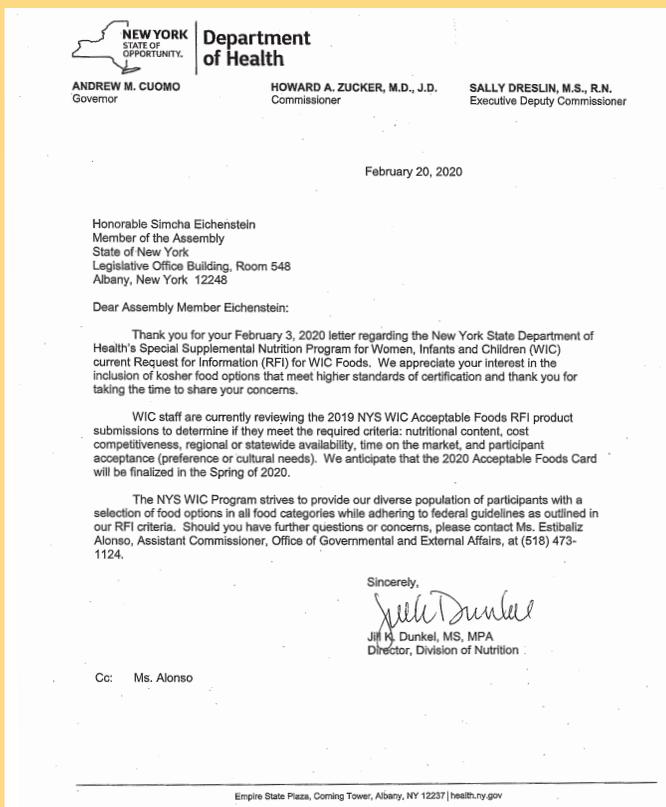
ring Assemblyman Eichenstein's First Term

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein's Office Assisted Over 3,700 Constituents in Claiming Their Unemployment Benefits During COVID-19 Crisis



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Secures Additional Higher Kosher Standard Food Options As Part of the WIC Program

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, alongside Assembly Health Chair Richard Gottfried and Senator Simcha Felder, succeeded in the hard-fought campaign to include additional higher standard kosher food products as part of the New York State WIC program list of accepted food products. This inclusion greatly enhances the options for thousands of families that rely on the WIC program throughout New York State.



October Red Zone: Assemblyman Eichenstein successfully reached an agreement on how to reopen our schools in the red zone with a testing protocol in place

COLLIVE

April 12, 2020

After Complaints, NY Hospitals Will Allow Visitation by Family

Governor Andrew Cuomo instructed New York hospitals to allow family members to visit patients in imminent end-of-life situations. Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein and many in the Frum community asked for the change.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein: Families Must Have Full Access to Patients in Hospitals

As far back as last March, Governor Cuomo and the NYS Department of Health began banning visitors for hospital patients as New York battled the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result, Assemblyman Eichenstein began receiving countless frantic calls from constituents desperately awaiting updates about their loved ones. Recognizing the injustice being served to these families, Assemblyman Eichenstein advocated passionately and forcefully for their needs. In response, Governor Cuomo announced in April that end-of-life patients would be allowed visitation and that hospitals would develop clear protocols for communicating with family members or caregivers of patients. Later, after a successful two-week pilot program which was negotiated with the Governor's office and the New York State Health Association, guidance expanding visitation in all hospitals was finally issued.

A Most Memorable Moment!

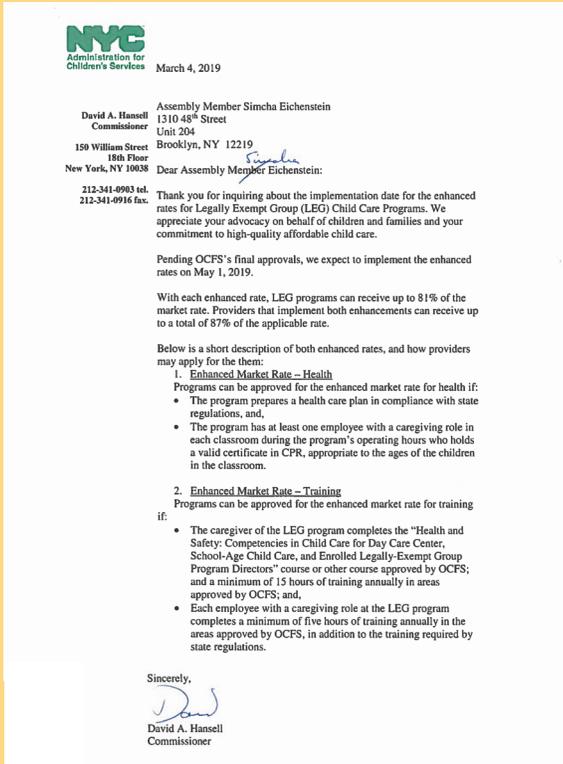


In order to promote a sense of solidarity and understanding between communities, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein and Nachas Health Network arranged for Holocaust survivors to engage and share their stories with high school students. Survivors described the horrors of the Holocaust and the stories of their miraculous survival. The students engaged in a discussion with their visitors and developed greater empathy, which helps foster an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding.

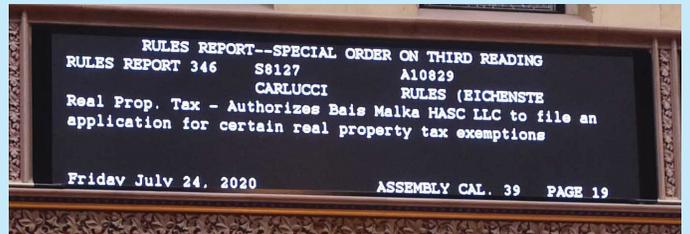


Senator Felder and Assemblyman Eichenstein Restore Voucher Funding

Three years ago, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services cut voucher funding for Legally Exempt Group Child Care Programs by a devastating 25%. This cut resulted in a loss of millions of dollars for after-school child care programs provided by our local institutions. Senator Simcha Felder and Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein led a hard-fought battle for the restoration of these funds and ultimately succeeded. As of May 2019, the funding was restored.



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Instrumental in Ensuring Community-Wide Kosher Lunch Distribution Programs During Time of Crisis



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein's Legislation Eases Tax Burden For HASC and Bais Malka Belz

Due to bureaucratic red tape, the properties of Bais Malka Belz and HASC were not eligible for tax exempt status, resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars in unjustly accumulated property tax. Assemblyman Eichenstein stepped in and passed legislation to right this wrong – requiring the local municipality to exempt these unwarranted taxes for these two organizations.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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Assemblyman
**Simcha
Eichenstein**



Spring 2021 Update

Community Residents Take Advantage of Numerous Free Events Hosted by Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein



Shredding



E-Waste



Flu Shots