



Assemblyman **Simcha Eichenstein**



**Spring 2022
Update**

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Dear Neighbor:

Spring is upon us, and with it comes a message of hope.

There is much to be hopeful for. The pandemic seems to finally be receding. Our economy is reopening, our businesses and restaurants will once again be flourishing, and our city and state will surely return to their former glory. The last few years have certainly been challenging, but I believe that we are bouncing back better than ever.

Now, while we remain optimistic, we must also be realistic about our current state of affairs. Antisemitism and hate crimes are still at an all-time high, and the spike in crime is a major concern for citizens in this district and beyond. I can assure you that I am working hard both on the local front and with my colleagues up in Albany to address these serious issues, and I believe that with strong leadership, we are headed in the right direction.

We are a large and diverse community with a wide range of needs and challenges that must be addressed, but there is much hope for a brighter future. I truly believe that if we all work together, we can restore New York to its former greatness.

As always, I urge you to contact my office with any questions or comments. My capable and experienced staff are available to help you solve any issues. When you need assistance, reach out to us at our district office and we will be happy to assist. You can send us an email at: EichensteinS@nyassembly.gov, or call us at: (718) 853-9616.

Thank you for trusting me to represent you in the State Assembly,

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, 48th District

StandWithUs Partners with Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein and Gerstman Schwartz LLP on New Hate Crimes Civil Lawsuit Initiative

In response to the alarming rise in antisemitic crimes, the national organization StandWithUs is partnering with Assemblyman Eichenstein and the law firm Gerstman Schwartz LLP to promote their newly created civil lawsuits initiative to bring perpetrators of hate crimes to justice. Gerstman Schwartz LLP is ready to file civil suits on behalf of victims of antisemitic hate crimes as a means to fight back against the perpetrators who commit these senseless and despicable crimes. The initiative provides all legal services, free of cost, to the victims.

“Filing a civil lawsuit is an additional consequence that will force perpetrators to regret their actions and will serve to deter others from doing the same,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “Victims of hate crimes will no longer have to suffer in silence while their attackers get released with a slap on the wrist.”



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein on the scene of a recent hate crime incident with NYPD personnel

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Successful in Passing Camp Health Provider Amendment

When state lawmakers recently passed a bill which would have potentially caused hardship to our local community’s summer camps, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein stepped in to rectify the situation. Because of the Assemblyman’s tireless efforts, the bill was amended to reflect the needs of countless camps throughout New York State.

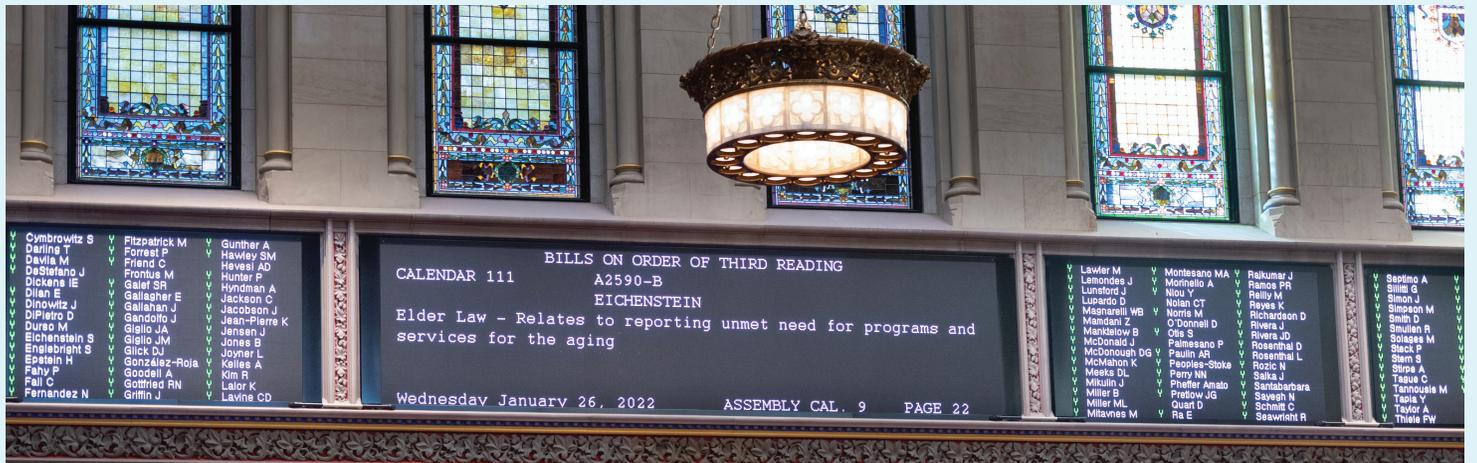
The original bill, which passed last year, would have required summer camps to employ licensed health providers on their premises, but a clause in the bill stated that the camp medical director must be a physician, a PA, or a nurse. This caused concern to camp directors, many of whom currently employ Emergency Medical Technicians for this role.

After being approached by Rabbi Yoel Rosenfeld, Director of Machne Gila, Assemblyman Eichenstein launched a campaign to amend the bill so that it reflects the current reality. Assemblyman Eichenstein worked with Assembly leadership and the original sponsor of the bill, requesting that new chapter amendment legislation be passed that includes qualified EMTs as camp medical directors. His efforts were successful and the new amended bill passed both houses of the State Legislature in January.



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein's Legislation for Greater Transparency in Unmet Senior Needs Passes the Assembly

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein sponsored legislation (Bill A2590-B) which would require agencies that service the aging to record and report when elderly New Yorkers are denied services due to lack of sufficient funding. The purpose of this legislation is to ensure that the state will reinvest funding in specific areas so that the needs of this vulnerable population are properly and sufficiently met. "With this data we can identify which investments need to be made in order to assure our older adult population receives quality care," said Assemblyman Eichenstein.



Voting on Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein's Legislation on the Assembly Floor

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Introduces Local Small Businesses to Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

Brooklyn's Chamber of Commerce can be a tremendous resource to business owners across the borough including in our home neighborhoods of Midwood and Boro Park. That's why Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein spent an afternoon with President Randy Peers at the Brooklyn Square corporate center, introducing him to small business owners who can benefit from the services the chamber of commerce has to offer.

"It was a productive and eye-opening experience for everyone," said Assemblyman Eichenstein. "The Chamber is an excellent resource that can help empower, support, and advocate for our communities' many diverse small businesses."



Assemblyman Eichenstein introduces Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce President Randy Peers to small business owners at Brooklyn Square

Senator Simcha Felder and Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Host Workshop for Small Shuls to Apply for New Security Funding

With anti-Semitic hate crimes surging at an alarming rate, Senator Felder and Assemblyman Eichenstein are grateful for the partnership with UJA-Federation of New York and the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC-NY), in creating a new safety and security program for local small shuls and synagogues.

To reach out to community synagogues that can benefit greatly from this program, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein and Senator Simcha Felder co-hosted an event at the Assemblyman's Boro Park district office. Representatives of dozens of local synagogues attended, eager to begin the application process for the free security grant funding. Eric Goldstein, CEO of UJA-Federation and Gideon Taylor of JCRC NY were present and available to answer any questions and help with the application process.

"We had a tremendous turnout and we've generated a lot of interest in this program," said Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein. "The concern about antisemitism in our area is real, and clearly the community is prepared to do everything possible to protect itself."



Synagogue representatives complete applications for the new security funding program at Assemblyman Eichenstein's district office



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Hosts Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie on a Tour of the Boro Park and Midwood Communities

Visits Were Focused on Issues that are Currently at the Forefront of Assemblyman Eichenstein's Advocacy in Albany

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein hosted NYS Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie for a day in his district in an effort to highlight the significant issues affecting the local Midwood and Boro Park communities. The two spent the day visiting local residents and community leaders. Assemblyman Eichenstein invited the Speaker to sample the vibrant culture of the neighborhood and its many charitable organizations.



Speaker Heastie and Assemblyman Eichenstein Visit Imagine Academy in Midwood

Speaker Heastie and Assemblyman Eichenstein first visited Imagine Academy, where they saw firsthand the dedication and commitment of the staff who work with special education students, specifically students with autism. Speaker Heastie was inspired by the warmth and caring of those who work with special needs children. They also discussed and highlighted their efforts to address the difficulties that parents face while navigating the bureaucracy of reimbursement for educating their special needs children in New York City.



Speaker Heastie and Assemblyman Eichenstein Visit Central Hatzalah Dispatch Room

Assemblyman Eichenstein brought Assembly Speaker Heastie to the Central Hatzalah headquarters, where selfless volunteers answer countless calls and save lives on a daily basis. They also discussed Hatzalah's complex and highly effective dispatching system which needs improvements to maintain the standards of emergency services in today's high-tech world.



Holocaust Survivor Shows Her Concentration Camp Number to Speaker Heastie and Assemblyman Eichenstein



Holocaust Survivors Share their Stories with Speaker Heastie and Assemblyman Eichenstein

A moving segment of Speaker Heastie's tour was the visit to Nachas Healthnet, a social services organization that assists the elderly. There they met with a group of about two dozen Holocaust survivors who shared their stories. The survivors spoke about the horrors of their youth. One woman rolled up her sleeve to display the numbers tattooed on her arm at Auschwitz. Speaker Heastie spoke about his own visit to Yad Vashem several years ago and how it made a tremendous impact.

Upon the conclusion of the visits, Speaker Heastie said, "Today's visit to Brooklyn with my friend and colleague Assemblymember Simcha Eichenstein was both inspiring and deeply moving. From Imagine Academy working to give students with autism a bright future, to the volunteer first responders at Central Hatzalah ensuring the community has the emergency medical care they need, to meeting with Holocaust survivors at Nachas Healthnet, we were able to talk to residents about their needs and see the resilience and vibrancy of the community."

"I want to thank Speaker Heastie for taking the time to tour our district and meet with the wonderful people who make this neighborhood great," said Assemblyman Eichenstein. "Speaker Heastie graciously agreed to spend the day with us, listening with genuine interest to the people who live and work here. I'm confident we can continue working together on solving the issues and overcoming the challenges that need to be addressed."

Chanukah in the Community!



Assemblyman Eichenstein joined HASC Center in a special presentation to Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer as they expressed appreciation for his continued friendship and advocacy on behalf of special individuals.



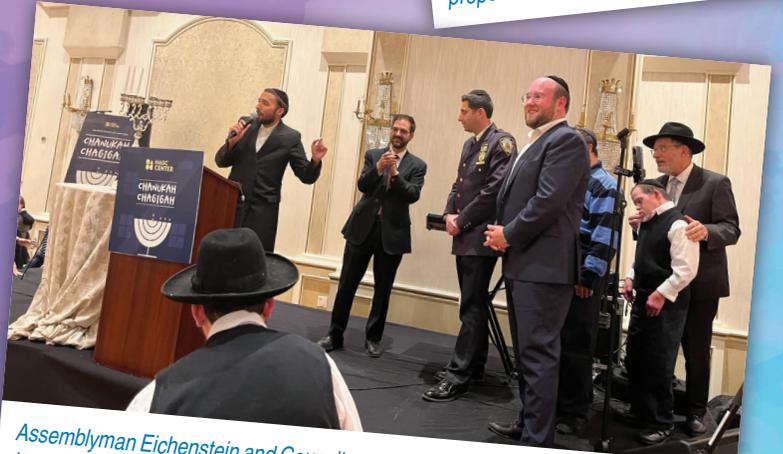
Assemblyman Eichenstein and Councilman Yeger join King David Center at their Chanukah activity box distribution, providing gifts and entertainment to over 1,500 local families.



Assemblyman Eichenstein celebrates a heartwarming Chanukah celebration at Masbia, distributing gifts and toys to children of widowed and divorced mothers, ensuring that they enjoy a proper Chanukah party.



Assemblyman Eichenstein joins the Tantzlers at an event focused on bringing joy to special children and their families.



Assemblyman Eichenstein and Councilman Yeger celebrate together with the special individuals of HASC Center at their inspiring Chanukah Chagigah!

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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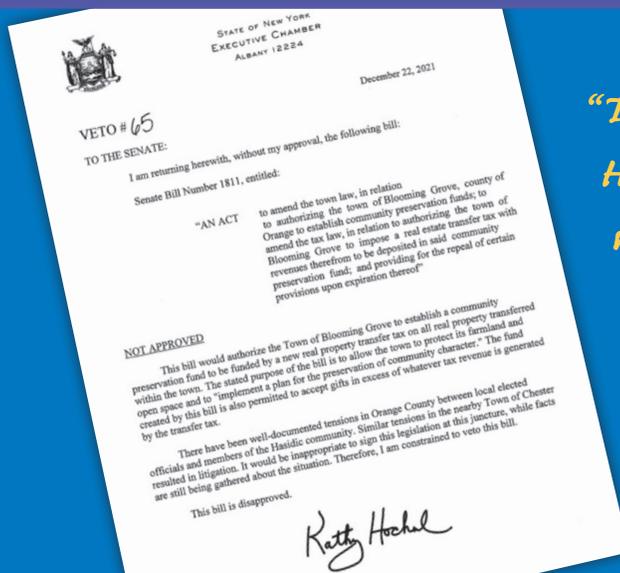


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Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein commends Governor Kathy Hochul for showing true leadership by vetoing a bill that was disguised as land preservation but ultimately was designed to block Chasidic Jews from moving in to Blooming Grove, NY.



"Thank you Governor Hochul, for doing the right thing. There is no room for discrimination in New York State."