



Assemblyman **Simcha Eichenstein**

Fall 2024



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Dear Neighbor:

With the summer behind us, we turn our attention to the upcoming fall and winter seasons. Families are back home from vacation, kids have returned to school, and everyone is gearing up for the new year.

As your representative in the New York State Assembly, I assure you that I am working tirelessly to address the issues that continue to affect our neighborhoods. During this past legislative session, I successfully passed important legislation which I am confident will benefit our communities in many ways. Equally as important, I take great pride in the high-quality constituent services being provided at my district office.

As always, my dedicated staff is available to assist, and you are always welcome to reach out with your questions, concerns, or comments. You can call us at: (718) 853-9616 or send an email to: EichensteinS@nyassembly.gov

It's an honor and privilege for me to represent you in the New York State Assembly and I'm both humbled and proud to know that you trust me with this very special responsibility. I am continuously working on your behalf, fighting for all my constituents on a daily basis, and am taking this opportunity to report some of the progress we have made.

Once again, I am grateful to have earned your trust and thank you for giving me the privilege of representing you in the State Assembly.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, 48th District

ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN AND CHEVRA HATZALAH CELEBRATE THREE BRAND NEW AMBULANCES

Flatbush, Boro Park, and Catskills Hatzalah unveil ambulances acquired with state funding allocated by Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein joined with administrators and coordinators of Chevra Hatzalah at a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the unveiling of three brand new ambulances which will service Boro Park, Flatbush and the Catskills region. Each state-of-the-art emergency vehicle will be outfitted with the proper equipment needed for the area it will be servicing.

These new ambulances are great news for Hatzalah and the community at large, giving the organization even more opportunities to perform its lifesaving mission. As communities grow, Hatzalah is determined to grow as well to accommodate the demand. The new ambulances, obtained via state funding allocated by Assemblyman Eichenstein, will ensure that Hatzalah will be well-equipped with the proper number of emergency vehicles to continue its selfless and heroic mission.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Assemblyman Eichenstein paid tribute to Hatzalah and its wonderful work. "At today's ribbon-cutting, we not only celebrate three new ambulances, but we also celebrate the Hatzalah organization. Its hundreds of volunteer members are selflessly dedicated to saving and preserving lives in every community," said Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein "They are truly heroes and it's an honor to be doing my small part to assist them in their holy work."

Rabbi Yechiel Kalish, CEO of Hatzalah, thanked the assemblyman for facilitating funding of the ambulances. "We are grateful for Assemblyman Eichenstein's dedication to saving lives in and around his district," said Rabbi Kalish. "He is proactively there for Hatzalah 24/7, both in Albany and in Brooklyn. Today's event represents just a small portion of what the Assemblyman does for Hatzalah on behalf of his constituents."

SAY **NO** TO CONGESTION PRICING!

ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN JOINS LAWSUIT IN EFFORT TO BLOCK IMPLEMENTATION OF CONGESTION PRICING

As the threat of congestion pricing in Manhattan remains a consideration, Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein joined forces with fellow stakeholders in filing a federal lawsuit aimed at blocking the initiative from taking effect.

“Congestion pricing unfairly targets motorists who drive into Manhattan from the outer boroughs, which is why I voted against the entire budget revenue bill in 2019 that included the implementation of this unjust tax,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “Given that the impact on the environment has not been satisfactorily proven as required by law, I join with many others in objecting to this plan, which seems to be yet another opportunity to extract funds from cash-strapped constituents who are already struggling to stay afloat.”

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

NEW YORKERS AGAINST CONGESTION PRICING TAX, DANNY BUZZETTA, DR. GREGOR WINKEL, LEE BERMAN, MEREDITH LeVANDE, RITA SUE SIEGEL, TOMMY LOEB, KATHRYN FREED, TREVER HOLLAND, RICKY YANG, PAUL ENG, BARUCH WEISS, ROBERT FRIEDRICH, KEVIN FORRESTAL, WARREN SCHREIBER, CHRISTOPHER RYAN, BEN MASON, DENNIS ROSARIO, RABBI Y.S. GINZBERG, JACOB ENGLANDER, AARON GONZALEZ, HOWARD CHIN, ELAINE LA PENNA, THOMAS ANTHONY SCARPA, COUNCILMEMBER KRISTY MARMORATO, COUNCILMEMBER VICKIE PALADINO, COUNCILMEMBER JOANN ARIOLA, COUNCILMEMBER SUSAN ZHUANG, COUNCILMEMBER KALMAN YEGER, COUNCILMEMBER INNA VERNIKOV, COUNCILMEMBER, ROBERT F. HOLDEN, RICHARD PASSARELLI, STEVEN TRAUBE, FRANCISCO GONZALEZ, JOSE COLLADO, VITO LaBELLA, AIXA TORRES, JULIE VELEZ, DAPHNE BRUCCULERI, DR. ALAN L. MINTZ, D.D.S., **ASSEMBLYMEMBER**

Civ. Case No.1:24-cv-367

**AMENDED
CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT**

SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN, THOMAS ZABIELSKIS, NINA JODY, MICHAEL KEKAFOS, NORMAN SPIZZ, MICHAEL GROSS, EFRAIM REISS and ASSEMBLYMEMBER MICHAEL NOVAKHOV, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, SHAILEN BHATT, in his official capacity as Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, RICHARD J. MARQUIS, in his official capacity as Division Administrator of the New York Division of the Federal Highway Administration, METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, TRIBOROUGH BRIDGE AND TUNNEL AUTHORITY, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION and TRAFFIC MOBILITY REVIEW BOARD,

Defendants.

ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN THROWS OUT CEREMONIAL FIRST PITCH AT ANNUAL HATZALAH-NYPD SOFTBALL GAME



Team NYPD



Team Hatzalah

The annual NYPD vs Hatzalah baseball game is always entertaining, and this year the game was especially thrilling for Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein who was honored to throw out the ceremonial first pitch. The ballgame provides wholesome entertainment and also fosters goodwill and positive relationships between the Hatzalah organization and local law enforcement. “Throwing out the first pitch is a ceremonial tradition and I was excited to be chosen for this unique honor at the historic NYPD-Hatzalah game,” said Assemblyman Eichenstein. “Members of Hatzalah and the NYPD are our heroes so this event was both humbling and inspiring.”



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein presents an award to Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther during a ribbon-cutting ceremony and roundtable reception at Camp HASC.



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein partners with the Boro Park Jewish Community Council to distribute hundreds of free car seats to local eligible residents.

ARE YOU FRUSTRATED WITH A BUREAUCRATIC AGENCY?

OUR DISTRICT OFFICE IS HERE TO HELP YOU

Here are some ways we recently helped constituents overcome the bureaucratic red tape:

Several years ago, a New York-based yeshiva raised funds for constructing a new building in Israel. Over the years, the yeshiva's name was changed but the collected money remained in the original bank account, where it was eventually routed to NYS Unclaimed Funds. When the yeshiva was ready to begin construction and wished to reclaim the money, the State was reluctant to release it due to the name change, citing potential fraud. Despite many attempts to contact to the State Comptroller's office, the account remained frozen.

Desperate to reclaim the funds, the yeshiva reached out to Assemblyman Eichenstein's office for assistance. After multiple emails and conversations with the Comptroller's Supervising Attorney, the Attorney General's office reviewed the case and agreed to release the frozen money.

JB is a young girl with a disability who was receiving services through Medicaid and was planning to attend a summer camp where those services would continue. Unfortunately, the routine Medicaid approval became delayed because the State wished to audit the case, a delay which could take up to three months. The family was faced with the prospect of paying thousands of dollars out-of-pocket for the services.

After JB's family contacted Assemblyman Eichenstein's office for help, the assemblyman's staff reached out to OPWDD and the agency was able to expedite the review process. As a result, JB enjoyed a wonderful summer and also received the services she needed.



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein and NYC Councilman Kalman Yeger join forty Holocaust survivors at the Hudson Valley Resort, where they enjoy a well-deserved vacation organized by Nachas Healthnet, in partnership with Assemblyman Eichenstein and The Blue Card.

ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN ARRANGES FOR FORMER MLB STAR PITCHER BARTOLO COLON TO VISIT CAMP SIMCHA

In a visit arranged by Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, 4-time All-Star pitcher Bartolo Colon traveled to Camp Simcha in the Catskills region to lift the spirits of children suffering from illness.

Camp Simcha, a summer camp for children with cancer, disabilities, and chronic medical conditions, was thrilled to welcome Colon, who joined the youngsters in lively dancing and baseball drills.

"I was delighted to facilitate Bartolo Colon's visit to camp," said Assemblyman Eichenstein. "Bartolo is a big man, but he has an even bigger heart. He literally lit up the camp with his presence and proved that he is a superstar not just on the field but wherever he goes."



A WIN FOR PARENTS! CHECKS ARE IN THE MAIL!

ASSEMBLYMAN SIMCHA EICHENSTEIN SUCCESSFULLY HELPS PASS CRITICAL TAX CREDIT FOR PARENTS

After relentless advocacy by Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-25 Enacted Budget included a historic provision called the Supplemental Empire State Child Credit. This new tax credit of up to \$330 per child for eligible families will help ease the burden for 1.8 million tax-paying New Yorkers, a significant win for residents with young children who are struggling with financial stress.

Last year, the credit was expanded to families with children under four years of age, and Assemblyman Eichenstein ensured that the credit would continue to benefit his constituents by keeping more of their hard-earned dollars in their pockets. "I am proud to have helped pass this important legislation which will considerably benefit so many families with young children," said Assemblyman Eichenstein. "Checks were mailed out over the summer, just in time for the start of the school season!"

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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Assemblyman
**Simcha
Eichenstein**



Fall 2024



Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein attends the season opening ribbon-cutting for the Boro Park Greenmarket.