



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY WEEKLY REPORT

Assistant Speaker

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Working for Our Community in Albany and Brooklyn

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STANDING IN SUPPORT OF LGBT COMMUNITY

I am appalled by President Trump's latest proposal to define gender in an antiquated and scientifically unrecognized way, which would effectively deny federal recognition and civil rights protections to transgender Americans.

This shameful attack on the right of people to identify as their true selves will set our country back and will hurt our transgender friends and relatives. Despite these attempts to erase transgender individuals from our great nation and our communities, I stand with you in this fight. As a longtime ally of the LGBT community, I've helped pass the LGBT Runaway bill (A02662) in the Assembly with overwhelming bi-partisan support. I've also worked diligently to pass my Non-Binary/Third Gender Option bill (A08524). For more information regarding my legislation: [click here](#) and [here](#).



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

According to National Voices for Equality, Education, and Enlightenment, a child is bullied every 7 minutes. The Center for Addiction and Mental Health reports that almost one-third of students are being bullied at school and more than one-fifth of students report having bullied someone else.

Bullying is a serious problem that has a severe impact on children in our communities; it can cause anxiety, physical ailments, absenteeism, school violence, diminished academic performance, and depression. Many of these incidents go unaddressed, resulting in more harassment and trauma.

While I fight to end bullying in our state, I will continue to support our children, adolescents, and teens that are currently suffering from bullies in our schools by providing resources for them: Next year, I plan to reintroduce legislation (currently A. 09822) that would establish a statewide, toll-free hotline for reporting bullying incidents in New York State schools.

If you or your child is being bullied, you can find resources here: <https://www.stopbullying.gov/>



SUPPORTING NEW LEGISLATION PROMOTING HEALTHY EATING INITIATIVE

The New York City Health Department's new "National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative" looks to cut the amount of sugar in packaged foods by 20% and drinks by 40% over the next 7 years! This is a great initiative, but should not be limited to the five boroughs. There are children and adults throughout New York state consuming unnecessary and unhealthy amounts of sugar and sodium. I am developing new legislation that I will introduce in January to advance this initiative statewide.

I've always championed healthy eating initiatives. In 2010 I introduced legislation to restrict the amount of sodium being used by restaurants in the preparation of food, and in 2013 I introduced a bill to enact the "Sweetened Beverage Tax Law" and establish the "Children's Health Promotion Fund" to fund statewide childhood obesity prevention activities and programs. It is great to see that the New York City Health Department has caught up with my attempts to make food healthier in New York, and I look forward furthering this cause.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RESOURCES

Here is a community announcement and resource you may be interested in.
Please follow the link provided for more information.

October 30th: "We Dominate Money: Funding" hosted by Galapagos Center for New Americans and WENYC: Free workshop in Spanish to help women entrepreneurs learn how to navigate business finance. For info: [click here](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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If you have a comment or suggestion regarding the upcoming year and the 2018 session, please send an email, "like" the Facebook page and follow on Twitter.