



Assemblymember
Jo Anne Simon
52nd District



Announcements & Upcoming Events

June 2018

A Message from Jo Anne...

I am so pleased that the Assembly passed [my newly expanded Extreme Risk Protection Order bill](#) to prevent gun violence this month! This bill empowers families, law enforcement, and now teachers and school administrators to help prevent gun violence by applying to a court to temporarily restrict an individual's access to firearms if the court finds that the individual is likely to engage in conduct that would harm themselves or others.

In response to the school shootings that have shaken our country to its core, I worked with Governor Cuomo to expand my bill that had previously passed this session to also allow school personnel to step in and help prevent gun violence. People close to the school shooter in Parkland reported their concerns about him to law enforcement, but there was no mechanism for them to act. This bill can change that. Too often, we are able to see the warning signs that an individual close to us poses a risk of serious harm to themselves or to others, but lack a mechanism to prevent unthinkable tragedies such as interpersonal gun violence or suicide.

I am proud that we took a stand with the brave kids in Florida, New York, and across the country who have called on us to act. I hope that this bill is taken up swiftly in the Senate.

This month, we also remember the 49 lives who were lost at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando two years ago, who were mostly LGBTQ+ people of color. We honor those whose lives were lost by taking meaningful action.

You may [listen to my comments on this issue on my website](#).

For more details on the legislative session, sign up for my email alerts by emailing simonj@nyassembly.gov.

Sincerely,

Jo Anne Simon

Students in Grades 8-12 are invited to join our new Youth Policy Council! Please spread the word about this program that connects students with elected officials. Students will have an opportunity to share their ideas on legislative bills and programs that affect the lives of young people and New Yorkers. This is a year-long, volunteer program that will benefit students from throughout the community and the elected officials and their staff by bringing the academic world and the practical world together. We encourage all high school students to apply by June 29. Applicants will be notified by the end of July. I am coordinating the Youth Policy Council with Council Member Stephen Levin, State Senators Brian Kavanagh and Velmanette Montgomery. Applications can be submitted here: <https://www.youthpolicycouncil.com> or you can email my office at simonj@nyassembly.gov.

Assembly Passes Legislative Package to Protect New Yorkers from Unfair Housing Practices

I am pleased that we passed a legislative package to strengthen rent protections and combat unfair practices in order to increase access to affordable housing for all New Yorkers. Right now, New York City is experiencing an affordable housing crisis. As towers of luxury apartments continue to be built across the boroughs, tenants are being priced out of their homes, and rent-stabilized apartments are rapidly de-regulating. The bills would combat landlord harassment, protect the existing affordable housing stock, eliminate vacancy decontrol provisions, and help tenants challenge unfair landlord practices in court. For more details on the bills, contact my office or [view them online](#) (A7992A, A433, A9815, A8886-A, A6285, A4003, A9816).

Assembly Passes Legislative Package to Support New Yorkers with Disabilities

In recognition of Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day on May 30, I helped pass an Assembly legislative package to strengthen anti-discrimination protections for New Yorkers with disabilities and ensure access to important resources. The package included bills to protect disability rights, improve emergency preparedness and housing safety, support veterans, enter the workforce, and help New Yorkers with disabilities stay in their communities, ensure access to vital equipment, and more.

Summer Reading Challenge for Students

Avoid the Summer Brain Drain! I am once again sponsoring a Summer Reading Challenge. All elementary and middle school students are invited to participate. It will not only be fun for them, but they will return to school in September with those “learning muscles” well-toned. You may contact Alexis in my office at sfikasa@nyassembly.gov to request a brochure and a summer reading calendar, or you may [download the form from my website](#). You will also receive an invite to the certificate ceremony in the fall at the local library.

Java with Jo Anne – Fri., June 15, 2018

Is there a community issue you care about? Let’s talk about it! Join me for a cup of coffee at my next “Java with Jo Anne” at Tazza at 311 Henry St. in Brooklyn Heights from 8-10 am. I hope to see you there!

Senior Resource Fair – Fri., June 29, 2018

Please join me for my Annual Senior Resource Fair on June 29th, 2018 from 10am to 2pm at St. Francis College, 180 Remsen Street (between Court St and Clinton St). A variety of groups will be available to provide you with information on legal services, health care, government services, community resources, and more! There will also be a Town Hall at 12:30pm to discuss health and wellness as you age.

D15 Diversity Plan Community Presentation, Wed., 6/20

You’re invited to District 15’s Middle School Diversity Plan final community presentation led by the NYC Dept. of Education. Over the past 6 months, the D15 Diversity Plan Working Group and School Community have worked collaboratively to develop a set of recommendations to create diverse, meaningfully integrated middle schools. Join us and come hear those recommendations presented to the community at Sunset Park High School, 153 35th St., Brooklyn, NY 11232 on Wed., June 20 at 6:30pm. Translation services and child care will be available. [RSVP here](#) or call 718-935-2212. [Click here for details on the diversity plan](#).

Affordable Housing Opportunity in CB2

You can now apply for newly constructed housing units at 1 Flatbush Ave. Brooklyn, 11217. Preference will be given to people already living in Community Board 2 (Boerum Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Clinton Hill, Downtown Brooklyn, DUMBO, Fort Greene, Vinegar Hill). Applications are due July 11, 2018. [For more information and to apply, click here](#).

Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act

I was proud to join with New York State Nurses Association and Brooklyn's nurses to call for the passage of the "safe staffing for quality care act" ([S3330/ A1532](#)). Nurses want what's best for their patients because patient safety in Brooklyn just can't wait. This bill would require all acute care facilities and nursing homes to meet standards for appropriate staffing ratios of nursing and unlicensed direct care staff. Thanks to all of the nurses and those of you who work in our health care system and take care of New Yorkers every day.



GrowNYC Free Stop 'N' Swap Community Reuse Event – Sat. 6/12

Finished your spring cleaning? Bring clean, reusable items such as clothing, housewares, electronics, books, and toys to the GrowNYC Stop 'N' Swap at the Old Stone House, 4th St at 5th Ave, Park Slope, on Sat., June 16, 12-3pm. You don't have to bring something to take something! www.GrowNYC.org/swap.

FDNY Open Houses – Sat. 6/16

Visit your local Firehouse or EMS Station and meet the Firefighters, Paramedics, and EMTs who keep our community safe every day! Take a tour, learn fire safety tips, or get a free smoke alarm for your home. Find your local stations and their open house hours using the map online:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/fdny/index.page>

Shakespeare in Carroll Park - starting Wed. 6/20

Smith Street Stage is back this summer with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* from June 20-24 and June 27-July 1 at Carroll Park, Smith and President Streets. No tickets required, and seating is first come, first served. More info: <http://www.smithstreetstage.org/playing-now/>.

Gowanus Rezoning Framework Open House, Wed., 6/27

On June 4th, 2018, the Department of City Planning (DCP) for New York released the framework for land use and planning in the neighborhood, which includes recommendations for open space, infrastructure, transportation, and increased density that prioritizes a mix of uses. Join us for the presentation to learn more about the framework and to give feedback to the DCP and 16 other NYC agencies at P.S. 32, 317 Hoyt St., Brooklyn, NY 11231 on Wed., June 27th from 5:30pm to 8pm. You can read the framework [here](#).

ICYMI: I recently joined a panel moderated by the Times Union Capitol Confidential on the #MeToo movement and sexual misconduct in New York State. As we continue to shine a spotlight on this issue, we must ensure that our policies and community programs are as strong as possible in order to end sexual harassment and assault. [Click here for coverage of the event](#).

Happy Pride! I look forward to celebrating Pride with my LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters this month.

District Office: 341 Smith Street | Brooklyn, NY 11231 | 718-246-4889 | Fax: 718-246 4895
Albany Office: LOB, Room 326 | Albany, NY 12247 | 518-455-5426 | Fax: 518-455 4787
Email: simonj@NYassembly.gov | Web: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Jo-Anne-Simon>

Sign up for my email alerts: Email simonj@NYassembly.gov or go to my Assembly webpage.