



Assembly Member
**HARVEY
EPSTEIN**



74TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT • REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE • FALL 2022

Dear Neighbor,

As we enter the holiday season and end of the year, I hope you're spending it with friends and loved ones. In January, I'll return to Albany for the start of the 2023 legislative session. There's a lot to do, including building on the successes of last year like expanding and protecting reproductive health care and keeping guns off our streets. We urgently need to address the housing supply and affordability crisis. To that end, I will be reintroducing legislation to enable New York City to safely upgrade basement apartments which would bring tens of thousands of units across the City up to safety standards and create legal protections for tenants, and redoubling my commitment to passing the good cause eviction bill.

I look forward to keeping you updated and involved as we get to work in Albany.

See you around the district,

Harvey

Report Back on our Constituent Survey

Around this time last year, we fielded a survey to gather data on what issues constituents want to see our office focus on. Based on some of your most popular responses, I'm happy to report back on the following:



Concerns With Cleanliness in Tompkins Square Park

We heard concerns from constituents about conditions in Tompkins Square Park. To address this, we convened regular clean-up crews made up of volunteers from our neighborhood. It was a great way to meet others who care about our community and are willing to step up to do the work it takes to make it even better. People have started a regular meeting and are likely to create a Friends of Tompkins Square Park group. Reach out if you want to get involved!

(continued on page 2)

Fewer Cars, More Open Streets



Among the most popular responses on our survey was a demand for fewer cars in the neighborhood so pedestrians and cyclists can safely enjoy our streets. It's been a pleasure to work with the Loiscida Open Streets Community Coalition (LOSCC) to make our community's open streets (Ave B from 6th to 14th) a vibrant place for workout classes, theater and musical performances, as well as events like the shredding event our office sponsored. I look forward to the ongoing partnership between our office and LOSCC, including introducing legislation that would enable New York City to enforce a 5 MPH speed limit on open streets.

Beautifying Glick Park

One of my favorite things about our community is that when we notice a problem, we come together to address it. Alliance for Kips Bay has been a great steward of our public spaces in the northern part of the district and I was proud to join with them throughout the year to plant bulbs, clean up trash, and refurbish park furniture at Glick Park.



Invest in CUNY

I have introduced a constitutional amendment that would guarantee New Yorkers a right to a free education at CUNY, as well as prime sponsoring legislation that expands TAP, facilitates loan forgiveness for CUNY staff, and ends transcript withholding for students all across New York regardless of whether their school is public or private. I'm also a proud co-sponsor of the New Deal for CUNY to make CUNY free again. My father



was able to graduate from CUNY because of the free tuition. More New Yorkers should have that opportunity. In the FY 2022 budget we delivered over half a billion in operations and tuition assistance funding for CUNY and SUNY. Our public universities are one of New York's greatest economic equalizers. In 2023, I'm committed to advocating for our public university students and the educators that make our system run.

Our Legislative Victories

I'm pleased to recap for you the bills I passed in 2022. Some have been signed already and we expect the remainder to be signed by the deadline at the end of this year.

Became Law

- Ending transcript withholding so students can advance in their education and careers (A6938, Epstein)
- Streamlining access to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program to enable more New Yorkers to have their student loan debt forgiven (A9523, Epstein)
- Providing epilepsy patients information to stay healthy (A3298, Epstein)
- Enhancing access to job opportunities for people with disabilities (A8599, Epstein)

Awaiting Governor's Signature

- Creating the first ever regulation of the immigration bond sector to end predatory practices - The Stop Immigration Bond Abuse (SIMBA) Act (A7770, Epstein)
- Making it easier for homeowners to install electric vehicle charging stations on their property (A6165, Epstein)
- Ensuring New Yorkers mandated to attend substance use treatment programs can participate in non-religious programs (A8163, Epstein)
- Expanding access to civil legal services (A4938, Epstein)



Join our Youth Council

We are seeking local middle and high school students to join our district youth council. You're eligible to apply if you live or go to school in District 74! The deadline to apply is Friday, January 5, 2023. Fill out an application by visiting: <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein/> (or Google "Harvey Epstein") and clicking the link entitled "Apply to Join the District 74 Youth Council" on the right hand side of the homepage.

HELP ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY! Join the AD74 Youth Council! As a member of the youth council, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Help determine legislative priorities in our community
- Organize community events
- Increase civic engagement across the district
- Develop valuable leadership skills...and more!

For more information contact our district office at 212-979-9696.

Farewell to our Chief of Staff, John Blasco

For the past two years, our office has been lucky to have John Blasco as our Chief of Staff. Throughout his tenure, he has been a great leader and advocate for the district he grew up in. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors!



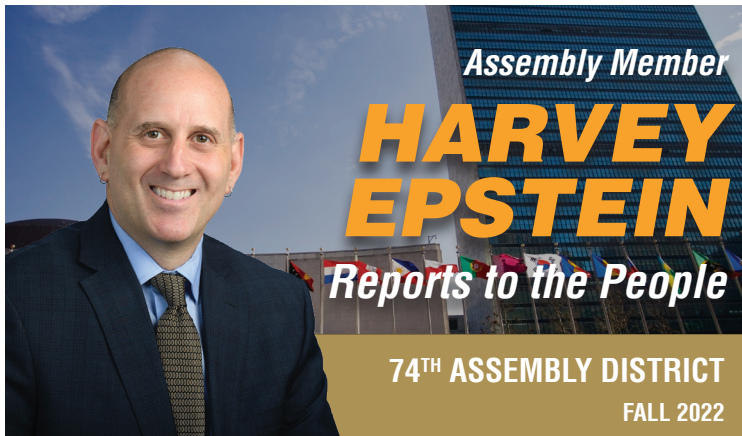
Constituent Survey 2023

As we gear up for the 2023 legislative session, I want to hear from you.

Take our 2023 constituent survey by visiting:
<https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein/>
(or Google “Harvey Epstein”) and clicking the link entitled
“Take My 2023 Constituent Survey”
on the right hand side of the homepage.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

PRSR STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Albany, New York
Permit No. 75



UPCOMING EVENTS

Office of Cannabis Management Forum

Wednesday 12/14 @ 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join me and representatives from the New York State Office of Cannabis Management to learn about the laws surrounding New York's budding cannabis industry. Topics will include the licensing process and how prior convictions affect licensing.

See you there on December 14th from 6-8 at the Lower East Side Girls Club
402 East 8th Street, New York, NY.