

Dear Friends,

First of all, **to all those who are celebrating the Jewish New Year, L'Shana Tova!** Holidays like Rosh Hashanah remind us of the importance of being together and celebrating. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday filled with peace, hope and joy.



And with Yom Kippur beginning tonight at sundown, g'mar chatima tovah. I wish you an easy and meaningful fast.

It is officially fall in the district! A season of cheerful colors, community fairs, nonprofit galas, fire department inspection dinners, and scores of other happenings. Beginning Friday evening, this past weekend took me to events including the Woman's Club of White Plains event benefiting Feeding Westchester and the restoration of the CV Rich Mansion, the Harrison Fire Department's annual inspection dinner, the Bedford 2030 Clean Ride & Drive Expo, the Chappaqua Children's Book Festival, the Armonk Outdoor Art Show, and the White Plains Hospital Gala. It was a busy weekend!



Meanwhile, the work continues. My staff and I are spending a great deal of time on the Con Edison & NYSEG rate cases, as well as focusing on my legislative priorities for next year's session. I am happy to say that in the meantime, a number of pieces of my legislation from the 2025 session have been signed into law, while we await action on many other pieces of legislation passed earlier this year.

2025 Legislative Update

The 2025 portion of the 2025-2026 legislative session ended in the second week of June. Due to a late budget, there was unfortunately less time than I would have hoped to work on my legislation; therefore, many of my sponsored bills needed to be held over for next year's session. I look forward to working to advance them.

In any given year, the Governor takes time before acting on legislation passed by both chambers. There are literally thousands of bills passed, and the Executive team and agencies need time to review them. As such, the Governor does not take action to sign or veto a majority of the bills until December.

That being said, several of the bills I sponsored are measures that the municipalities in my district asked me to carry. These are known as local bills, since they affect only a single municipality and do not apply statewide.

Because of the time sensitivity of three of these local bills -- sponsored in the Senate by my colleague NYS Senator Shelley Mayer -- I asked that the Governor's team move up their review process. I am pleased that the Governor has signed the following three bills into law:

- <u>A8165/S05983A</u> confers authority to the City of White Plains to lease sports field fences at Gedney Field to a not-for-profit for the purposes of advertising. The rent would be nominal, with the revenue used solely for the care of the field.
- <u>A7287/S06426</u> was requested by the town of Harrison, to allow the town to hire
 nonresidents for the positions of assistant court clerk and fire marshal, provided
 they are residents of Westchester. The town has sought to fill these positions for
 some time, and this measure will help them to do just that.
- <u>A7004/S05994</u> was requested by the Pound Ridge Fire Department to update the charter of the department's benevolent association to align with recent legislative authorizations.

Meanwhile, I am still awaiting action by the Governor on a number of pieces of my sponsored legislation, including:

- Protection of Local Wetlands and Public Water Supply (<u>A6930/S05983-A</u>);
- The creation of a Disability Employment Task Force (<u>A00033/S4511</u>); and
- Legislation prohibiting the use of fracking wastewater for the purposes of melting ice or dust control (<u>A4725A/S2706A</u>)

The legislature is also awaiting action on the following bills passed earlier this year, all of which I highlighted in a <u>previous newsletter</u>, including:

- Medical Aid in Dying (<u>A136/S138</u>)
- Elimination of the 100' Rule for Providing Gas Service Connections (A8888/S8417)
- Correctional System Reforms (<u>A8871/S8415</u>)
- Safety Standards for Artificial Intelligence (AI) (<u>A6453B/S6953B</u>)
- A trio of bills passed to support emergency services. (<u>A8086A/S7501A</u>; <u>A2177A/S1515</u>; <u>A00034/S00031</u>)



Con Edison & NYSEG Rate Cases

As I have <u>discussed previously</u>, because I represent communities in the service areas of both Con Edison and NYSEG, my staff and I became intervenors (parties) in their rate increase cases before the Public Service Commission (PSC). **From the outset, I have been pushing back hard against the unconscionable proposed rate increases.** Con Edison has requested an increase of 11.4% for electric and 13.3% for gas, and NYSEG has requested 23.7% in electric rates and 33.5% for gas.

The Con Edison case, filed in February, is deep into the stage of confidential settlement negotiations. I will keep you posted on any updates as I am able.

In the NYSEG case, filed at the end of June, interrogatories (questions) are being submitted to the company, which will then be followed by the submission of testimony. Our work is driven by the fact that residents are already struggling to pay their utility rates, and simply can't afford what the companies are proposing. I will continue to fight zealously.

Going forward, I anticipate that my participation in the utility rate cases will lead to my introducing legislation to amend the Public Service Law, to reform the process by which rates are set.

In Need of College Application Assistance? New York is Here to Help!

Navigating the college application process can feel overwhelming, but you don't have to do it alone! From financial aid workshops to guidance exploring the full range of higher education opportunities, New York State offers a variety of assistance.

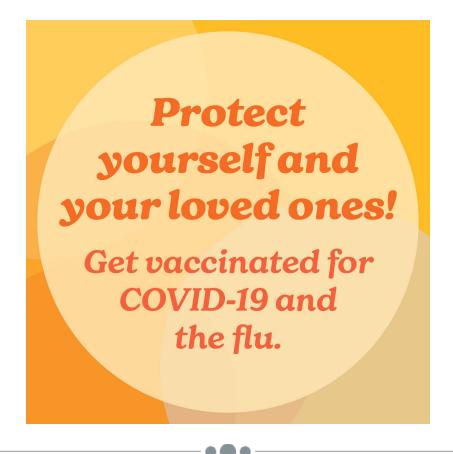
For more information and a full list of upcoming events, <u>please click here</u>.



Don't Forget About Important Vaccines This Fall!

As cooler weather returns, New York is recommending everyone – children, adults, and high-risk individuals – get their COVID-19 and flu vaccines.

While federal guidance remains confusing at best, New York is following the science and putting residents' health first. Vaccines are safe, effective, and the best way to protect yourself, your family and your community.



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

Finally, in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15-October 15, **I would once again like to take the opportunity to recognize the organizations that have made an immense impact on the Hispanic Community in my district.** Organizations such as <u>Latino U College Access</u>, <u>Neighbors Link</u>, <u>Community</u> Resource Center, El Centro Hispano, and Make the Road.

At a time when there is great consternation in our immigrant communities, **Hispanic Heritage Month reminds us that the achievements and successes of our country would not be possible without the contributions of these communities**, including our vibrant and diverse Hispanic community.



As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions or if there is any assistance we can provide. You can always reach me at burdickc@nyassembly.gov or by calling (914) 244-4450. My staff and I are always ready to help.

Please also follow me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter/X</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> for continued up-to-date information.

Miss any of our previous newsletters? You can **find them here**.

Sincerely yours,

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