



Assemblymember Dana Levenberg



8 Revolutionary Road, Ossining, NY 10562 • (914) 941-1111 • Fax: (914) 941-9132 • levenbergd@nyassembly.gov
@AMDanaLevenberg • @OfficeofDanaLevenberg

Dear Constituent,

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the 95th District in the Assembly. In this newsletter, you'll find updates from Albany and around the district, including results from the most recent survey I circulated. For more frequent updates, sign up for my e-news at <https://bit.ly/AD95E-News>, visit my website (<https://bit.ly/Levenberg>) and follow me on social media. I am @AMDanaLevenberg on Facebook, Instagram and Bluesky.

News from Albany

The state budget was finalized in May. Here are key provisions impacting Assembly District 95:

■ Utility Reform

I continued my efforts to rein in utility costs this term, serving as an intervenor in the Con Edison rate cases and working to shift power back toward ratepayers. This year's budget includes many reforms my colleagues and I have been fighting for. Utilities are now required to return excess profits to ratepayers, and they also face new limits on the costs they can recover from ratepayers. When they ask for future rate increases, they must present a "budget-constrained" option capped at the rate of inflation. A new energy affordability index and Residential Affordability Through Energy Savings (RATES) Commission will help the Public Service Commission track residential utility costs and recommend solutions for bringing them down. We also approved \$1 billion to send Protecting Our Wallets Energy Rebate (POWER) checks of \$100-\$200 to eligible residents based on income.

■ Supporting Communities & Workers

The budget invests \$1.4 billion in local capital aid, including \$698 million for local roads and bridges. Tier 6 pension reforms will help us recruit and retain public workers.

■ Keeping New Yorkers Safe & Healthy

New protections passed in the budget protect New Yorkers from ICE overreach. Key provisions include limits on state and local collaboration with ICE, protections for sensitive locations like schools and houses of worship, and establish a private right of action against agents violating constitutional rights. Other legislation in the budget cracks down on ghost guns and drone crimes. We also passed legislation creating 50-foot buffer zones around houses of worship. To offset federal cuts to SNAP and healthcare, we boosted funding for programs that combat hunger and extended Essential Plan healthcare coverage to most at-risk enrollees.



Debating legislation in the Capitol.

■ Promoting Sustainability

My colleagues and I secured investments in the budget that will keep us moving in the right direction environmentally. We increased funding for clean water initiatives to a record \$750 million. We passed the Accelerate Solar for Affordable Power (ASAP) Act, secured \$200 million for NY-Sun, and secured \$1 billion for the Sustainable Future Fund, which pays for programs that help New Yorkers afford energy efficiency upgrades and transition off fossil fuels.

As a leader in the New York State Compost Coalition, I also successfully advocated for an increase in state funding for composting and food waste diversion programs. These will receive \$6 million, and an additional \$3.25 million will go to SUNY's Center for Sustainable Materials Management. Getting food out of landfills and incinerators is a high-impact step we can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for relatively small amounts of money and effort, and composting also improves our soil's ability to provide nourishment and capture carbon, further reducing emissions. I am so pleased that we are seizing this inexpensive, common-sense opportunity to continue building a greener future.

■ Expanding Educational Opportunity

District 95 schools will receive nearly \$280 million in state aid, with each district receiving at least a 2% increase in Foundation Aid. We also increased the Universal Pre-K (UPK) reimbursement amount from \$5,400 to \$10,000 per student, and committed to fully funding UPK outside of NYC by 2028. The Opportunity Promise Scholarship now covers all SUNY and CUNY campuses, expanding free community college access for adult learners.

■ Legislative Update

Eight of my prime-sponsored bills passed both houses this session, including five with statewide impact. **A.7833A**, inspired by social worker Maria Coto who tragically lost her life while making a home visit, would require social service agencies to equip staff with panic buttons for conducting home visits. **A.9465** provides new safety protections for telecommunications tower technicians. **A.4922C** establishes new protections for private student loan borrowers and cosigners, requiring lenders to explain loan terms more clearly and spell out when a cosigner can be released from responsibility for a loan. With changes in federal policy shifting more students toward the private student loan market, these protections are needed now more than ever. **A.11029** would require the DEC to publish an annual report on environmental radiation levels in our air, water, and soil. **A.11030** would require utilities and municipalities to give property owners five days’ notice before non-emergency work that might affect them.

Senator Pete Harckham and I also passed **A.10949**, extending the timeline for communities to receive funding from the Electric Generation Facility Cessation Mitigation Fund. This would give the Hendrick Hudson School District, the Village of Buchanan, and the Town of Cortlandt more time to adjust to the loss of tax revenue following the closure of Indian Point. I am now working to get these bills signed into law.

Other key legislation passed this session includes a **one-year moratorium on AI data centers** (A.11560) paired with other measures to protect people, the planet, and our utility bills from them. (Though the Governor recently issued an executive order instating a data center moratorium, my colleagues and I are still encouraging her to sign our legislation, as it goes much further than her order to protect New Yorkers.) We also passed **moratoria on AI chatbots in toys and AI companion features for minors**, as well as new **AI training data transparency rules** (A.11144, A.10379C, and A.6578). The **Solar Up Now New York (SUNNY) Act** (A.9111C) would make plug-in solar easier to adopt. A new **Food Safety and Chemical Disclosure Act** (A.1556G) would ban certain food additives and require clearer labeling.

We also passed the **Freedom to Read Act** (A.9537B), protecting school libraries from book bans; the **Health Information Privacy Act** (A.10357), to protect health data not currently protected by HIPAA; and the **One Fair Price Act** (A.9349) banning surveillance pricing. We also prioritized public safety by passing **Kyra’s Law** (A.6194C), putting the safety of children first in custody proceedings; the **CREEP Act** (A.3226A), making it easier for stalking victims to get protective orders; and **A.6790**, quadrupling the tax credit for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. Two constitutional amendments also received first passage; **A.11553A** would reform redistricting procedures and **A.5036C** would shift more elections to even years, to boost voter participation and save taxpayer money. I will keep fighting for legislation that did not pass this year, including the **Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act** (A.1749A) and the **Rent Emergency Stabilization for Tenants Act** (A.4877D), as well as the **New York Health Act** (A.1466).

■ Recent Grant Awards

I recently helped secure \$300,000 in grant funding from this year’s budget for 13 organizations serving people in Assembly District 95. The recipients are:

- **Bethany Arts Community** for their youth arts programming (\$35,000)
- **Clearwater** for their Hudson River Environmental Education Program (\$35,000)
- **Carnegie Hall** for the Musical Connections program they facilitate with Sing Sing (\$35,000)
- The **John C. Hart Library** in Shrub Oak for their “Library of Things” (\$25,000)
- **Project Ready** of Ossining & Briarcliff for vocational training and community inclusion programs for youth with developmental disabilities (\$25,000)
- The **Town of Philipstown** for their commercial composting program (\$25,000)
- **Black Diamonds** in Peekskill for their college tour program (\$20,000)
- The **Buchanan Fire Department** for suits to help them fight brush fires safely (\$20,000)
- **Homeless Remedies, Inc.** of Peekskill for their JOBS training program (\$20,000)
- The **Blue Card** for their retreat program for Holocaust survivors (\$20,000)
- **Guardian Revival** for their peer-to-peer support training program (\$15,000) for first responders
- The **Ossining MicroFund** for non-loan programming costs (\$15,000)
- **Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic** for Putnam County Reproductive Health Coalition programming (\$10,000)

*Congratulations to all of the recipients!
I look forward to seeing the funded
projects in action.*



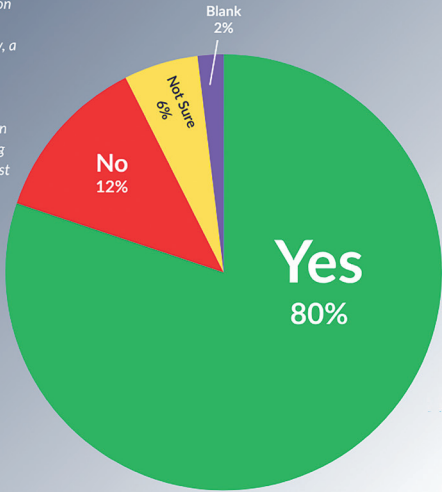
Presenting representatives from Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic with grant funding for their work with the Putnam County Reproductive Health Coalition.

■ 2025-2026 Issues Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who responded to my most recent survey; I was pleased to see the response rate go up. Below is a sampling of the results; visit <https://bit.ly/2026IssuesSurveyResults> to see the rest.

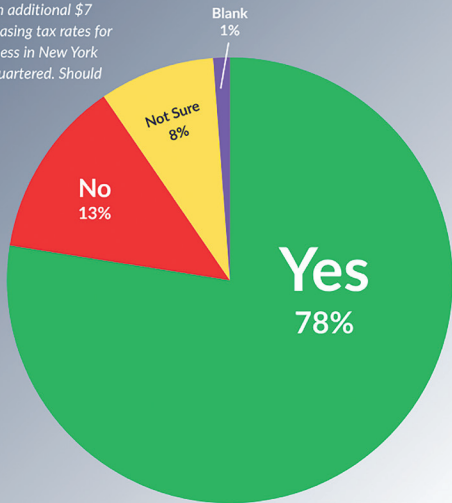
Q4. Taxing the Rich

New York could raise an additional \$21 billion per year by introducing new income tax brackets for the top 5% of earners. Currently, a person earning \$1 million per year pays the same percentage of income tax as a person earning \$215,000; a person earning \$25 million pays the same percentage as a person earning \$5 million. New, gradually increasing tax brackets would ensure that the wealthiest New Yorkers pay their fair share of taxes. Should New York pass this legislation?



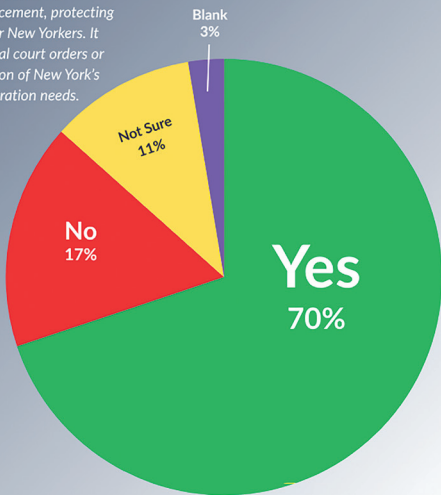
Q5. Increasing Corporate Taxes

Corporations pay less in taxes now than they did in the 1990s. A new proposal would generate an additional \$7 billion for New Yorkers every year by increasing tax rates for highly profitable corporations doing business in New York State, regardless of where they are headquartered. Should New York pass this legislation?



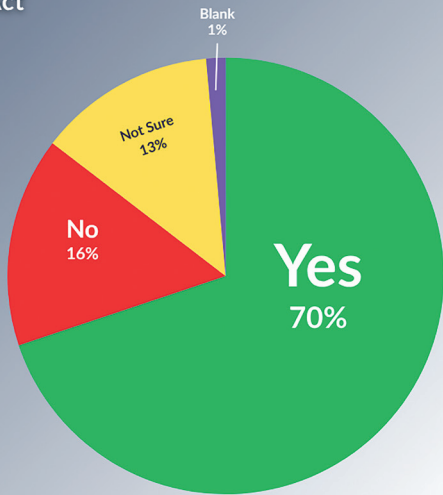
Q6. New York for All

The New York For All Act would limit state and local participation in federal immigration enforcement, protecting due process and local law enforcement for New Yorkers. It would enable compliance with valid federal court orders or judicial warrants, while preventing diversion of New York's state and local resources to federal immigration needs. Should New York pass this law?



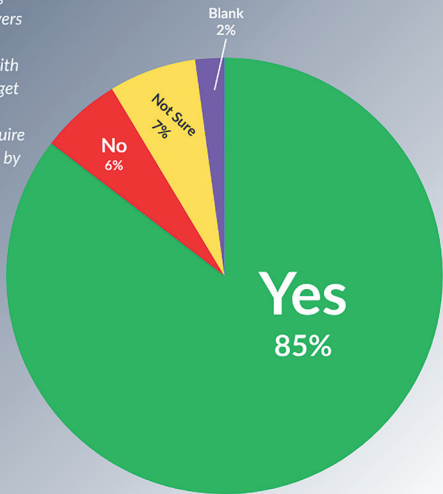
Q7. New York Health Act

The New York Health Act would create a single-payer healthcare system in New York. It would be funded by a combination of payroll and income taxes that would be higher for higher income earners and lower for those who earn less. It would eliminate costs like deductibles, co-pays, and other out-of-pocket expenses; 90% of New Yorkers would spend less on healthcare than they do at present. It would include dental, vision, mental health, and long term care in addition to prescription drugs and standard and major medical care. Should New York pass this law?



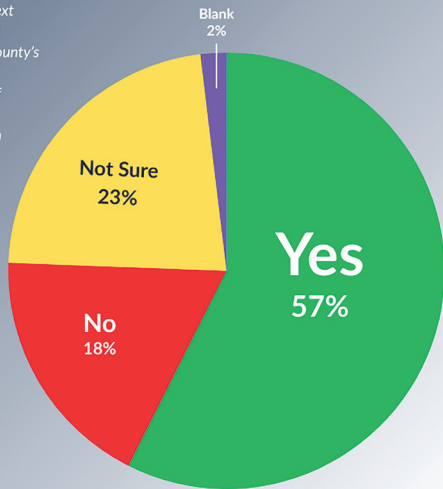
Q8. Packaging Reduction & Recycling Infrastructure Act

The Packaging Reduction & Recycling Infrastructure Act would save taxpayers and municipalities money by forcing polluting companies to pay to deal with their packaging waste. It would also get 19 of the most toxic chemicals and substances out of packaging and require companies to reduce their packaging by 30% over 12 years. Should New York pass this law?



Q9. Housing Legislation

New York State needs to build an estimated 800,000 new units of housing over the next decade in order to sustain population and economic growth. Locally, Westchester County's most recent housing needs assessment indicated that nearly 12,000 new units of housing are needed just to meet current demand. Should New York pass legislation making it easier to build new housing throughout the state?



At a press conference in Albany fighting for utility reform.



Speaking at a rally for a strong data center moratorium.



At a press conference in Cortlandt advocating for water infrastructure funding.



Honoring award recipients at New Era Creative Space’s annual gala.



At the Putnam County Fair.



Honoring firefighters in Yorktown.



New York State Assembly
Albany, New York 12248

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Passing out pocket constitutions at Ossining’s Independence Day fireworks event.



Watching the World Cup final.