



Assemblyman Kenneth P. Zebrowski



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REPORT TO NORTH ROCKLAND RESIDENTS

Dear Neighbor,

As your voice up at the State Capitol, I am always fighting to make North Rockland a better place to build a life and raise a family. I support statewide issues that I think are important and will positively affect folks in my district. I fight for local issues that matter most to you, and work to secure state funding while partnering with local officials for one shared goal: to better the community.

This update will feature some of the statewide initiatives that we were able to accomplish this past legislative session as well as the local happenings that are going on in the North Rockland area.

Thank you for continuing to let me represent you in Albany. I look forward to continuing to work together to make Rockland and the 96th Assembly District a better place.

Sincerely,

Ken
Ken Zebrowski

FULL DAY K: ALMOST A REALITY FOR NORTH ROCKLAND

- For years, Assemblyman Zebrowski has worked tirelessly with local advocates to bring attention to the lack of full day kindergarten programs for a handful of school districts in New York State; including North Rockland.
- Finally, their work has paid off: Ken is pleased to report that at the end of this past legislative session he was able to secure a commitment for increased full day kindergarten funding in next year's state budget.
- Through a joint effort with Governor Cuomo, Speaker Carl Heastie, Education Chair Assemblywoman Nolan, and his partner in this fight, Assemblyman Skoufis, there has been an assurance that North Rockland and the other remaining districts with half day K programs will receive more conversion aid to help make full day K a reality.
- Ken has authored a bill that passed the Assembly for the past two sessions which would provide enhanced transition aid to districts in order to make this a reality (A.1625A).



Assemblyman Zebrowski honors the North Rockland High School Boys Bowling Team at the Capitol for their incredible season and for winning the NYS Bowling Championship.

ADDRESSING THE DISTRICT DEBT CRISIS

- Assemblyman Zebrowski has been unrelenting in his fight to address the growing debt crisis in North Rockland that has stemmed from the Mirant tax challenge.
- Since he's been elected, he has been the North Rockland Community's biggest advocate in pushing for additional state aid to assist the schools and relieve some of the burden that taxpayers have had to endure over the years.
- This year, he was successful in securing additional state aid for North Rockland:
 - Under the 2017-18 budget, Ken was able to get \$4 million in immediate aid to the North Rockland School District.
 - The agreement also includes a comprehensive State Comptroller review of district finances.
 - The Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) will also analyze the district to see if refinancing of the debt is possible.
- Although this is a step in the right direction, Ken is adamant that his work is not over. He plans to continue to work with school and local officials, parents, and residents to continue to find solutions for the debt issue.

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INITIATIVES THAT BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY

Over this past year, Assemblyman Zebrowski has been able to secure state funding for grant opportunities to benefit the North Rockland area.

Below are a few highlights of what has been accomplished:

■ **A New Van for the Haverstraw Center**

Assemblyman Zebrowski was happy to be able to secure a grant for the Village of Haverstraw Youth and Family Services for the Haverstraw Center to replace their outdated van. This new van will make it easier for staff to transport kids and necessary supplies to different events throughout the County. The work that the Haverstraw Center does for the youth and families of North Rockland is invaluable. Ken was happy to support this investment, especially one that benefits children.

■ **Catholic Charities' Revolutionary Greenhouse Food Pantry**

Ken was honored to secure funding to help Catholic Charities build a revolutionary greenhouse to benefit their food pantry. This first of its kind food pantry in New York State will provide a self-sustaining farming initiative to benefit food insecure families in Rockland. This approach ensures families have access to fresh, healthy produce

that they might otherwise be unable to afford. Assemblyman Zebrowski plans to continue his work in fighting hunger in Rockland in partnership with Catholic Charities and the various food pantries throughout the County that do amazing work as well.



Assemblyman Zebrowski stands with Village of Haverstraw Mayor Mike Kohut, Department of Youth and Family Services Director Marion Breland, Assistant Director Peter Fata, Deputy Mayor Emily Dominguez, and children and staff of the Haverstraw Center summer camp.

STATEWIDE ISSUES

Uber Now in Rockland

This past session, the legislature approved the operation of ride sharing outside of New York City. Ken has been a leader in advocating for ride sharing for the past few years and was instrumental in the final push. Rocklanders will now be able to take advantage of Uber and Lyft; filling a transportation gap in the County that Assemblyman Zebrowski has continued to raise concerns over.

Stopping Unscrupulous Pet Dealers

This summer, the Governor signed Assemblyman Zebrowski's unscrupulous pet dealer loophole legislation into law. The law requires all non-profit and incorporated animal shelters and rescues to register with the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM). Although most rescue groups do incredible work for animals, there are a few bad apples that skirt the law and bring sick animals into the State. Ken's bill will ensure all entities are regulated to protect and stand up for needy animals.