

Ed RA

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

Looking back at 2013

- Boosted aid to Long Island schools by \$121 million
- Restored \$90 million in funding to the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
- Passed legislation authorizing an aircraft noise impact study
- Supported drastic reforms to the Long Island Power Authority

Looking forward to 2014

- Increasing education aid to Long Island schools, easing the burden on our taxpayers
- Changing the Common Core to ensure our children receive the quality education they deserve
- Cutting the red tape and bureaucracy that stifles job growth, getting our residents back to work

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ASSEMBLYMAN
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ASSEMBLYMAN RA IN THE COMMUNITY



Assemblyman Ra celebrating the Garden City Public Library's 40th Anniversary.



Assemblyman Ra at the 2013 H. Frank Carey Homecoming Parade.



Assemblyman Ra with recipients of his 2013 Women of Distinction Award.

MOVING LI
FORWARD

A healthy economy doesn't grow through gimmick programs or temporary tax cuts; it grows through time, foresight and empowering our residents and local businesses. A successful, sustainable economy can only be grown by providing people and small businesses with the means and environment to succeed. Fostering a climate for innovation and creativity, free of the bureaucratic red tape and excessive taxes, is the only way to create the type of good-paying jobs communities across this state need.

ELIMINATING
AIRCRAFT NOISE

Recently there has been a great amount of attention brought to the growing problem of increased aircraft noise over our neighborhoods due to changes in flight patterns and procedures by the FAA. I'm pleased to announce that Gov. Cuomo has directed the Port Authority to conduct a noise impact study pursuant to federal regulations, a similar measure to my legislation that passed the Assembly and Senate earlier this year. The drastic increase in air traffic over Long Island has had a detrimental effect on our residents and this study is a step toward making available data that will lead toward relief for those living with around the clock airplane noise above their homes. By better determining the use of certain runways and flight paths and by making available federal funding to remedy this issue, we can fix this important quality of life issue for Long Island and make it an even better place to work and live.

KNOWING
MORE ABOUT
COMMON CORE

Over the past two months, I've hosted a series of public forums dedicated to discussing Common Core and the effects high-stake testing are having on children and educators alike. My colleagues and I have invited educators, parents and other stakeholders to share their experiences with the federally-mandated curriculum, and the results have been eye-opening to say the least.

It's clear that a lot of our children, families and educators are struggling to keep up due to the hurried and haphazard implementation of these new standardized tests and curriculum, making it more difficult for our children to receive the quality education they deserve. Between these forums and the widespread concern expressed by parents and educators statewide, the stakeholders in our children's education are sending a message that the Department of Education must reevaluate their implementation of Common Core.

While the state Board of Regents has met to consider eliminating some exams, there is still more we can do. My colleagues and I plan on continuing to bring to light the issues facing our education system, until the Department of Education gets it right.

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