

Assemblyman

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Dear Neighbor(s):

Recently I helped to pass the state budget and I'm writing to update you about the changes and improvements that we have made this year. We fought for and secured more funding and resources for New York City schools, higher education, healthcare, and senior services. The \$138 billion plan will provide essential funding in education for our children, alleviate the tax burden on our working families, and create a better economic environment that will create jobs. I will continue to fight in Albany for more benefits for our senior citizens, children, and working families. Please do

not hesitate to contact my office with this or with any other issue.



ASSEMBLYMAN RON KIM IS ALWAYS FIGHTING FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

Recently, Assemblyman Ron Kim worked closely with many of our local community leaders, elected officials, and Community Board 7 to successfully advocate on behalf of St. George's Church on Main Street. For years, MTA buses have idled and drove their route along the streets surrounding this historic church causing pollution, garbage and waste to compound alongside the building. After months of outreach, the MTA finally agreed to divert their most high traffic routes away from the church.



2014 LEGISLATIVE BUDGET REPORT



Expanding EPIC Coverage

The budget provides \$4.1 million for the expansion of eligibility for the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) programs by increasing the income limit for the deductible plan from \$35,000 to \$75,000 for those who are single and \$50,000 to \$100,000 for those who are married.

Making Housing More Affordable

The budget offers tax relief for New York City residents by providing \$85 million in tax credits for homeowners, condominium and co-op owners and renters by implementing a "circuit breaker" plan. The "circuit breaker" will run for 2 years and will factor in household income for the property tax break.

The budget also restores \$742,000 in funding for the New York City Housing Authority Tenant Watch Program.

Additionally, the budget increases the income limit for the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) from \$29,000 to \$50,000 for a two-year period.

Historic Investment in Education

This year's budget increases school aid by \$1.1 billion, or 5.4 percent which is \$551 million over the executive budget proposal. For New York City, the state budget included an additional \$300 million to fund Universal Pre-K.

Under this Pre-K budget, approved community-based organizations, public schools, charters, and non-public schools will be eligible to receive funding to create pre-K programs.

"As a newly appointed member of the education committee, I am especially proud of our efforts this year to bring historic funding for universal pre-K for our children," said State Assemblyman Ron Kim. "It's no secret that when kids start to learn early, they are more likely to succeed later in life."

More Funding for Summer Youth Program

The final budget included \$27.5 million to the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) that continues to help young adults find jobs in worksites throughout New York City. SYEP helps our youth gain meaningful work experience, developing transferable skills, and providing a valuable connection for them to our many community groups and organizations.

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> — State Assemblyman Ron Kim

COMMUNITY UPDATES



Assemblyman Ron Kim met with civic groups to discuss his "CleanFlushing" initiative that will work to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. He also addressed the importance of alleviating airplane noise and traffic congestion in downtown Flushing.



Assemblyman Ron Kim always makes time to meet with constituents who visit him in the district or in Albany. Recently, Assemblyman Kim met with a family who came to visit him in Albany to advocate for more funding for developmentally disabled, blind, or deaf children.



Assemblyman Ron Kim visits a state subsidized pre-K class in the district to announce that the NYS budget will provide \$300 million per year in funding toward implementing pre-K for the next two years.



Assemblyman Ron Kim partners with community leaders to acknowledge five outstanding individuals for their "hard work, determination, and resiliency". As part of Assemblyman Kim's "Got Grit?" contest, he will continue to promote this program in the future.







Assemblyman Kim updates the 109th Precinct Community Council at the monthly public meeting on the state budget.

Assemblyman Ron Kim stands up for senior citizens in the district who are simply seeking a comfortable social space where they can stay connected with their friends. District 40 has a growing older population and Assemblyman Kim is working to find more resources for this community in Albany.

