



Assemblymember
Robert C. Carroll
Assembly District 44

January 12, 2018

Greetings --

The Governor gave his state of the state last week and outlined his priorities for the legislative session. Next week I expect that he will release his Executive Budget, which will mean the beginning of the budget negotiation process between the Governor and both houses of the legislature. Once the Governor releases his budget, I will assess and offer my thoughts on its various elements. One issue on which I have been focused over the past year is on the issue of electoral reforms. New York has some of the worst voter participation rates in the nation and that is because of antiquated voting laws that make it harder rather than easier to vote. Governor Cuomo has said in the past that he supports electoral reforms like early voting, but now it is time for him to show us the funding for it in his executive budget. That is why I joined with many of my colleagues as well as a host of advocacy groups in Albany this week to call on the Governor to put the funding for early voting in his budget.



Thirty seven states have early voting – it is long past time for New York to join that group. Getting early voting in the budget this year would go a long way to rectifying our abysmal voter participation rates, but we must not forget that in order to truly reform our election laws, we need same day registration, no fault absentee voting, to close the LLC loophole, campaign finance reform and more.

Senior Citizen Homeowners Exemption (SCHE)

January 16, 2018, is the last day to apply for the Senior Citizen Homeowners' Exemption (SCHE) and Disabled Homeowners' Exemption (DHE) for tax year 2017-18. If you are 65 years of age or older or disabled with an annual income of \$58,399 or less, you may qualify for SCHE or DHE. Please call my office at (718) 788-7221 if you fit these criteria – we are happy to assist you in filling out the paperwork.

My office is sponsoring, along with the New York City Department of Finance, an Enrollment event for SCHE and DHE as well as for the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE), Enhanced School Tax Relief (ESTAR), and the Veterans Property Tax Exemption on February 2nd at the Park Slope Armory. See the flyer below for full details and to check to see if you qualify for any of the programs.



Assemblymember Robert Carroll & New York City Department of Finance



Invite you to a

NYC Department of Finance Enrollment Event for the following programs:

■ Senior Citizen Homeowner's Exemption (SCHE)

Thanks to recent changes in city and state law, homeowners 65 years of age or older as of December 31, 2018 with annual income of \$58,399 or less are now eligible to receive SCHE. If you own the property with a spouse or sibling, only one of you needs to be 65 years or older as of December 31, 2018. SCHE exempts up to 50% of the assessed value of your home (private house, co-op unit or condo unit) from taxation. www.nyc.gov/sche. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2018. Call 311 for additional information.

■ Enhanced School Tax Relief (ESTAR)

The Enhanced School Tax Relief (ESTAR) exemption reduces the school tax liability for qualifying homeowners by exempting a portion of the value of their home from the school tax. To qualify for Enhanced STAR, owners must be 65 years of age or older as of December 31, 2018. If you own the property with a spouse or sibling, only one of you needs to be 65 years or older as of December 31, 2018. The property must be the owner-occupied, primary residence where the combined 2016 income of all owners and spouses who reside on the property does not exceed \$86,000. Owners who had a STAR exemption on the same property in the 2015/2016 tax year and wish to apply for Enhanced STAR can call 311. New ESTAR applicants will register for the STAR credit rather than the STAR exemption with New York State. For more information about the STAR credit go to www.tax.ny.gov/star/ or call New York State at (518) 457-2036.

■ Veterans Property Tax Exemption

This program provides a property tax exemption to qualifying veterans, the spouse or un-remarried widow/widower of a veteran, or a Gold Star parent (the parent of a child who died in the line of duty). Veterans are former members of the United States armed forces or the Merchant Marines (during World War II) called to active duty during a period of conflict or who are recipients of expeditionary medals. For information go to www1.nyc.gov/site/finance/benefits/landlords-veterans. page or call 311.

■ Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption program (SCRIE)

SCRIE, also known as the NYC Rent Freeze Program, freezes the rent for head-of-household seniors 62 and older who live in rent-regulated apartments (Rent Stabilized, Rent Controlled, and qualified SROs). The senior's household income must be \$50,000 or less and at least 1/3 of the household income must be applied towards the rent.

Whether you are a homeowner or renter, trained staff from the NYC Department of Finance and my office will be there to assist you in filling out paperwork and filing your applications for the programs of which you are eligible.

Event Details are as follows:

Friday, February 2, 2018
10:00am-2:00pm

Park Slope Armory YMCA ■ 361 15th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215

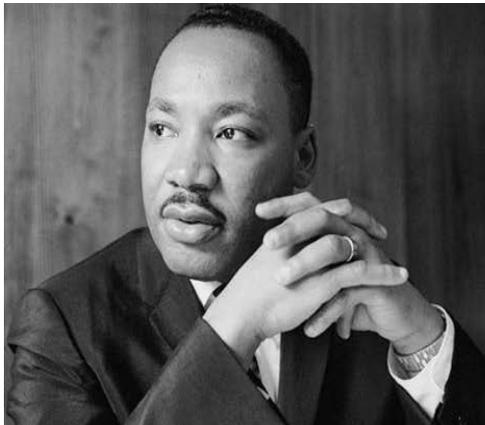
Please RSVP for the event by calling my district office at (718) 788-7221 or by emailing carrollr@nyassembly.gov.

Co-Sponsored by the New York City Department of Finance

Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.:

Please join Congregation Kolot Chayeinu, Old First Reformed Church, Iqra Masjid, St. Joseph High School, The Council of Peoples Organization and me for "Ethical Resistance and the Franchise," a special interfaith service taking place at Old First Reformed Church in Park Slope.

Please see the flyer below for full details and I hope to see you on MLK day!



ETHICAL RESISTANCE & THE FRANCHISE

A Special Interfaith Service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 15th
1:00 PM

Old First Reformed Church
729 Carroll Street @ 7th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Hosted by: Old First Reformed Church,
NY State Assemblymember Robert Carroll
& Congregation Kolot Chayeinu

Know Your Rights Workshop on Immigration:

On Wednesday I am partnering with The New Americans Initiative, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and Make the Road New York for a "Know Your Rights" workshop on immigration. If you are interested in the event, please RSVP – and please spread the word if you know of people who would like to attend.



IMMIGRATION KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Presented By: Make the Road New York,
Mayor's Office of Immigrants Affairs,
Assembly Member Robert Carroll, and
Council Member Brad Lander

SPEAKER: Perla L. Lopez Liberato

DATE: Wednesday, January 17th

TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

PLACE: Prospect Park YMCA
357 Ninth Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Please RSVP to:

Nabila Khan
Director, New Americans Initiative
212.912.2375
nkhan@ymcanyc.org

Community Meetings in the Week Ahead:

CAMBA Community Advisory Board for the Park Slope Women's Shelter

Park Slope Armory

1402 8th Avenue

Tuesday, January 16

6:30PM to 8:00PM

Please RSVP to Talisha Easterling, Director at TalishaE@camba.org and Rasheedah Boyd at RasheedahB@camba.org if you plan to attend. Usually meets the third Thursday of the month.

Know Your Rights Workshop - Immigration

Prospect Park YMCA

357 9th Street

Wednesday, January 17

6:30PM

The New Americans Initiative, in partnership with Assemblymember Robert Carroll, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, Make the Road New York, and Councilmember Brad Lander is holding a Know Your Rights workshop on the topic of Immigration.

Community Board 7 Monthly Meeting

CB 7 Office

4201 4th Avenue, entrance on 43rd Street

Wednesday, January 17

6:30pm

Open to community members. The [CB 7](#) monthly meeting is typically scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month at the CB 7 office but location moves around occasionally.

66th Precinct Community Council

CB 12 Office

5910 13th Avenue

Thursday, January 18

7:30pm

Open to community members. The 66th [Precinct Community Council](#) meetings typically take place on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm at CB 12's office.

See you around the neighborhood,

Bobby

P.S. [ICYMI – Last week I shared my views on a number of issues bound to come up this legislative session. Click here to check it out](#) and feel free to email me at carrollr@nyassembly.gov with your thoughts or legislative ideas.

Assemblymember Robert Carroll

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