

NEWS FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER MICAHA LASHER

Dear Neighbor,

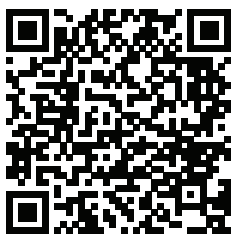
It was with great pride that I was recently sworn in to represent you in the New York State Assembly. Having grown up on the West Side, and now raising my own family here, it is truly the privilege of a lifetime to serve in this new role.

Over the last few months, I have tried to hit the ground running, both here in the neighborhood and in Albany. I wanted to reach out and update you on my legislative agenda, let you know about local events and initiatives, and make myself and my staff available to you for any assistance you may need.

It is, needless to say, a difficult time to be in government. The speed and scale of the assault by Donald Trump on American values and institutions is staggering, and I am committed to doing all that I can to protect New Yorkers from the damage and havoc coming out of Washington.

I am also committed to making sure that New York State and City governments deliver on their fundamental responsibilities. Safe neighborhoods, dependable public transit, quality schools, well-cared-for parks, effective delivery of public services, and more — all of this is essential to our future strength as a city, and essential to making New York a shining alternative to Trump's dystopian vision for America, and to his attacks on the liberal values, diversity, and dynamism that are at the heart of what makes New York tick.

Please reach out to me, any time, at lasherm@nyassembly.gov or (212) 866-3970, for assistance from my office, or if there are issues you think I should be focused on in Albany.



Escanear para Español

Sincerely,



*Proudly co-sponsoring the NY HEAT Act (A. 4870) to stop doubling down on fossil fuel infrastructure.
(Photo credit: Ken Schles)*



Fighting to make sure the MTA's plan for capital investments is fully funded.



Rallying with immigration advocates to protest the Trump Administration and push for the New York for All Act (A.3506).

MY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA: FIGHTING BACK AGAINST

I believe that it is critical for New York to have a coherent strategy to fight back against the most damaging actions of the Trump Administration, and am building a legislative agenda with that goal at its heart. We cannot roll out the red carpet for Trump, Musk, and their minions. We must fight back, and that's what these bills are about.



The RECOURSE Act to Protect Federal Funding:

I have authored the RECOURSE Act to enable New York State to withhold payments to the federal government in the event that the Trump Administration refuses to disburse funds owed to New York in contravention of a court order. This bill, which I am introducing alongside State Senator Jessica Ramos, aims both to deter financial bullying by Trump and to give New York real leverage in a legal fight over funding.

The BRIDGE Act to Recruit Laid Off Federal Employees:

I am introducing the BRIDGE Act which would enable former federal employees who come to work for the State of New York to purchase State pension credit for their prior government service.



The FAIR Business Practices Act:

I am proud to be introducing legislation in partnership with New York State Attorney General Letitia James to protect consumers and deliver fair and affordable pricing for New Yorkers. The FAIR Business Practices Act will empower Attorney General James and her office to do what the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Federal Trade Commission did before Trump shut them down.

Protecting Reproductive Healthcare Providers:

I am also a proud co-sponsor of legislation (A.5480) to provide legal protections to abortion providers and providers of gender-affirming care from criminal and civil actions by other states.



Legislation to Protect New Yorkers from Housing Discrimination:

Together with Assemblymember Jordan Wright, I have introduced legislation (A.4040) to enable the State Attorney General to effectively take action against housing discrimination, even as Trump stops enforcement of the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

New York for All:

I am a proud co-sponsor of the "New York For All Act" (A.3506), which would limit the cooperation of State and local law enforcement with ICE, ensuring that our limited government resources are used for providing services for New Yorkers, not deporting them.

AGAINST TRUMP AND FIGHTING FOR THE WEST SIDE

In addition to directly responding to what's coming out of Washington, I am also working on a range of bills to tackle longstanding challenges facing our state, city, and neighborhood:



Making our Communities Safer:

Our City has still not reached pre-pandemic levels of public safety, and part of the challenge arises from a significantly elevated number of prosecutions being dismissed for technical reasons. That is why I introduced legislation (A.0825), together with Senator Zellnor Myrie, to improve our District Attorneys' ability to gather evidence and meet the requirements of the State's discovery statute, without diminishing due process rights. Separately, the "HELP Act", a bill that I proposed with State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal to enable psychiatric nurse practitioners to evaluate individuals with serious mental illness for hospitalization, has been incorporated into the Governor's Executive Budget.



Ending the Scourge of Scaffolding:

State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal and I have proposed the Reducing Excess Scaffolding and Timely Ongoing Repair Efforts Act (A.6992). Recognizing that Local Law 11 work is expensive, the RESTORE Act uses a carrot-and-stick approach to get sidewalk sheds down. It provides a tax abatement for promptly completed repairs, and a graduated penalty when sidewalk sheds are left up more than eighteen months. (In the photo at left, we gave "Sheddy Awards" to the West Side's worst sidewalk sheds to call attention to this issue.)



Protecting Tenants and Making Housing More Affordable:

Mitchell-Lama housing is a big part of what formed the West Side into the community that it is today, but many of our remaining Mitchell-Lama buildings are struggling with the challenge of maintaining affordability while covering operating costs. That is why I have introduced legislation (A.6654) to eliminate the "shelter rent" tax on Mitchell-Lamas, to reduce the cost burdens they face. I have also introduced a bill (A.6423) to strengthen the rights of rent-stabilized tenants when it comes to getting security deposits back from landlords, and am a proud co-sponsor of Assemblymember

Linda Rosenthal's bill (A.1704) to provide housing vouchers to people who are homeless or on the brink. And with a focus on addressing our affordability crisis, I have introduced legislation (A.0799) to create a public revolving loan fund for affordable housing, and a bill to require localities around the state — many of which are not doing their part to create housing — to publish housing production numbers and zoning maps.

Requiring Our Biggest Corporations to Pay Their Fair Share:

There is a longstanding gap in our State's corporate income tax law that allows multinational companies to avoid paying hundreds of millions of dollars in taxes by shifting profits overseas. I have written and introduced legislation (A.6629), the Multinational Earnings and Global Accountability for Corporations Act, to put a stop to this. The MEGA Corporations Act would recover \$737 million annually for the State — money that could be used to make up for Federal funds that Trump is poised to slash.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS IN CRITICAL AREAS

In my early days in Albany, I advocated for assignments to Assembly committees dealing with policy areas of importance to the state and to our community, specifically. I am pleased to report my five assignments:



**Committee on
Corporations,
Authorities and
Commissions**



**Committee on
Environmental
Conservation**



**Committee on
Children and
Families**



**Committee on
Tourism,
Arts, Parks and
Sports
Development**



**Committee on
Economic
Development**

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New York State Assembly
Albany, New York 12248

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Join me for a Community Town Hall on April 23rd!

Goddard Riverside Community Center
593 Columbus Ave., 10024

6pm: Local Organizations Resource Fair

Come for the first hour of the event to connect with
local community groups and helpful resources

7pm: Program

Program and Q & A will begin at 7pm.

Please RSVP via
email to
[mitchellr@
nyassembly.gov](mailto:mitchellr@nyassembly.gov)