



NEWS FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER **Alex Bores**

DEAR NEIGHBORS

Dear Neighbors,

It has been an honor to serve as your Assemblymember this year. As someone who was born and raised in the community, it has been a thrill to represent my elementary school, my first workplace, and (most importantly) you, my neighbors.

I am a fifth generation New Yorker who was born, raised, and spent my whole life on the East Side of Manhattan. My career before serving in government was in technology, and I am one of the first elected officials in New York with a degree in computer science. My focus as your representative is on making your family **safer**, your life **simpler**, and your government **smarter**.



Since taking office in January, I am proud to have passed significant measures to increase public safety, including my bill adding more Criminal Court, Civil Court, Family Court, and Supreme Court Judges for New York City. We also made a **\$1 billion investment in addressing mental health** through the state budget.

Government should make daily life simpler. I passed bills this year that made it easier to find an optometrist, protected your intellectual property, ensured car insurance provided adequate coverage, and **raised fines on the telemarketers** that disrupt dinner.

I also brought **\$2 million to the district** to study how to accelerate the Green Energy transition while creating good jobs right here in New York.

In this newsletter you can learn more about the bills I have passed this year, the funding I have delivered for our communities, and a few of the key issues I will be addressing in the upcoming legislative session. We also send out a monthly email newsletter. If you are interested in joining, send an email with the subject line "Join Alex List" to BoresA@contactme.nyasassembly.gov.

For those of you who I have known for decades, new friends I have met since being elected, and for those who may be meeting me for the first time through this newsletter: I want to restate my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to represent you, and remind you that I am here to serve you!

My office is located at 353 Lexington Avenue (at 40th St.), Suite 704. If you have any questions, suggestions, or issues we may be able to assist you with, I encourage you to contact my team by email at BoresA@contactme.nyasassembly.gov or by phone at **212-605-0937**.

It is an honor to serve the 73rd Assembly District, and to be your voice in Albany.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Bores".



RESULTS FROM MY OFFICE

(by the numbers)

7000+

contacts with constituents

190+

constituent cases resolved

165 bills

co-sponsored

5 laws

carried and enacted

308+

community events attended

340+

legislative meetings held

Albany is where we can move bills, but I enjoy my time here with you more. Since January, my team and I have attended over 308 community events, resolved over 190 constituent cases, and hosted mobile office hours at multiple libraries, parks, and subway stops across the district. Be on the lookout for our table and banner — I will continue hosting regular mobile office hours year-round. Our office will continue to actively listen to the community, and respond to questions, suggestions, and

concerns in an efficient and timely manner.

We celebrated my inauguration at Hunter College to kick off the year. Special thank you to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, New York State Attorney General Letitia James, New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, Congressman Jerry Nadler, and all the elected officials and community leaders who joined us to celebrate.

INCREASING PUBLIC SAFETY

Public safety is my first priority. The following are measures I have passed or introduced to increase public safety across the city and the state:

Delivering More Judges (A07669)

One of the only public safety bills that passed this term was my bill increasing the number of judges. Justice delayed is justice denied, and our trials take far too long. This bill delivers much-needed support to courts in New York City and across the state.

A07669 delivers twenty new judgeships statewide, including the following judges in New York City:

- Two Criminal Court Judges;
- Three Family Court Judges;
- Two Supreme Court Justices; and
- One Civil Court Judge specifically for Manhattan

Mental Health

We have all seen the effects of underinvesting in mental health on our streets and in our communities. Supporting those living with mental illness (and their families) is not just the right thing to do, but it is also vital to our state's well-being and growth. This year, we made a monumental investment of \$1 billion in mental health care, including \$30 million specifically dedicated to expanding mental healthcare services for school-aged children.

E-Bikes Data (A07628)

I have heard concerns from numerous constituents and community organizations regarding e-bikes and e-scooters. While working with the NYPD, DOT, and other legislators to

address this issue, I discovered a frustrating reality: right now, no one knows how many collisions are caused by e-bikes, because the standard form for reporting crashes does not include a category for e-bikes or e-scooters.

This legislation will require accident reports involving e-bikes and e-scooters to be marked as such. I believe good data drives good policy, and to generate solutions to these concerns in Albany, we need to ensure New York State understands the severity of the issues we face regarding these vehicles. Public safety, and your personal sense of security in our district, is my top priority. This is a necessary first step — but not the last I'll be taking to address this issue.

No Cap Act (A05366)

While I am proud to have delivered more Family, Civil, and Criminal Court Judges this legislative session, we still have intolerable delays in Manhattan's Supreme Court. Manhattan has been unable to add more (State) Supreme Court Justices for years, due to a 1925 amendment to the State Constitution. This archaic provision has led to an immense case backlog, which has resulted in devastating human cost; those awaiting trial are stuck in limbo as court and legal fees pile up, divorce cases linger unresolved wreaking havoc on families, and the victims of crimes (and their loved ones) experience sleepless nights as they seek resolution.

This status quo is untenable, which is why I have introduced the 'No Cap Act' to ensure swifter justice for all New Yorkers, and to do away with an obsolete provision first enacted during the Coolidge Administration.

CLIMATE

This session, I delivered \$2 million to help found the Cornell University ILR School Climate Jobs Institute (CJI) right here in the 73rd District. CJI will bring together labor, elected officials, climate scientists, and industry leaders to deliver high-paying, union jobs to help reach our clean energy goals, and through data-driven climate policy will have a transformative impact not only in New York State, but across the nation.

Build Public Renewables Act

In the budget, we made major changes to the NY Power Authority (NYPA), allowing it to build new renewable energy plants. NYPA is the largest state public power authority in the US and generates some of the lowest cost energy in the country. It already generates 70% of its energy from renewable sources but was banned from making new facilities. This change will allow us to get critical new renewable capacity online quickly.

THE MTA

Transit access and safety are vital to our city. Here are a few of the improvements I have been fighting for in Albany:

Service Enhancements

The MTA plays a vital role in the daily lives of our district residents, which is why I have helped deliver \$34 million to improve our subway services. Starting this summer, we increased train frequency on the 6, N, and R lines. As of the end of August, the N and R train have midday service improvements, with trains now arriving every 8 minutes. On weekends, the 6 train will now arrive every 6 minutes, instead of an average of 8+ minutes between trains. Starting July 2024, the 5 train will also have extended weekend service with trains arriving every 10 minutes.

Fighting for Safer Subways

At the State Legislature's joint Budget hearing on Transportation and the MTA, I raised the issue of ensuring the security cameras in subway stations are functional, and pushed for MTA CEO Janno Lieber to install fixed railings at platforms across our district. These railings would help to ensure individuals do not fall onto the tracks accidentally, and prevent anyone from being pushed towards the tracks as they are waiting for their train. These are simple and effective measures that would dramatically increase safety across the system.

SUPPORTING WORKERS

Here are a few highlights of what I have done to support our workers this session:

Protecting Workers' Intellectual Property (A05295)

The Governor has just signed my bill codifying what should be a straightforward concept: if an employee creates something on their own time outside the office, their employer should not be able to claim ownership of that invention. A05295 prevents companies from including in their employment contracts any condition which would interfere with that principle. **I am proud to have passed this bill with overwhelming support across the aisle, including from organized labor, workers, and industry executives.**

Minimum Wage Increase

The fight for a \$15 minimum wage was just the beginning of our progress toward achieving a livable wage in NYC. I am pleased to share that we have increased the minimum wage to \$16 for the city, Long Island, and Westchester, effective January 2024. Moreover, the minimum wage will further increase in NYC, rising to \$16.50 in 2025, and \$17 in 2026, at which point further wage increases will be tied to inflation.

EDUCATION

Here are a few items I am proud to have supported to support education in New York:

Free School Lunches

No child should ever have to attend school on an empty stomach. That's why the Assembly is providing free school meals for 300,000+ New York students in this year's budget. Our children have enough to worry about at school — this investment of over \$134.6 million, in addition to federal subsidies, will ensure being able to afford lunch isn't one of them.

CUNY and SUNY

Our state budget includes the largest ever investment in our CUNY and SUNY systems, including \$1.9 billion to ensure in-state tuition will not increase this year, amongst other necessary improvements. Ten CUNY schools made Third Way's list of the top 50 schools in the nation for economic mobility. When we invest in CUNY and SUNY students, we are investing in the future of our city and our state.

Foundation Aid

The budget fully funded Foundation Aid for the first time, increasing our contribution to public schools to \$34.5 billion. We were able to do this and more all without raising income taxes.

DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

Here are legislative actions I have introduced which will help protect our elections:

PAID Act (A07106)

The PAID (Political Artificial Intelligence Disclaimer) Act aims to prevent rampant disinformation in our elections. As it stands, artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to revolutionize our lives for the better, but a technological advancement of this magnitude requires safeguards to ensure it remains a tool for good.

AI-driven applications, many of them free and widely available, are able to create incredibly lifelike images, videos, sounds, and all forms of media. In practice, this means candidates and PACs can legally generate mailers which include depictions of their opposition, including their face and even matching their voice, which are so realistic even experts would struggle to determine their authenticity or lack thereof.

The PAID Act will require all political communications made using AI to clearly disclose its use, holding accountable those who seek to mislead voters through deceptive media.

RIOT Act (A0328)

In Congress, at least two newly elected representatives have been credibly accused of participating in the violent insurrection on January 6th, 2021 at the U.S. Capitol.

While there is precedent for removing federal elected officials from office or disqualifying them from seeking office based on participating in an insurrection, no such prohibition exists for candidates running at the state level in New York. The RIOT (Restrict Insurrectionists from Office Taking) Act would close the loophole, barring those who threaten our democracy from holding office or being a judge in NY.

MAKING GOVERNMENT WORK FOR YOU

The following are bills which fix important problems which often do not grab headlines:

Stop Spam Calls (A04456)

Telemarketers have failed to respect the 'Do Not Call' registry, treating the penalties from ignoring it as a cost of doing business. I passed this bipartisan bill, carried in the Senate by Republican Sen. Joseph Griffo, **raising the maximum fine on telemarketers**. This new law will help make the cost of disturbing your peace high. To be protected, sign up for the Do Not Call registry (and report unwanted calls) at DoNotCall.gov.

Protecting Passover (A05057B)

This year, the filing deadline for candidates running for office in New York State was initially Thursday, April 6th — the second night of Passover. This meant Jewish candidates, staff, and volunteers observing the holiday would have to work through their Seders to have the same time to file as other candidates.

After being signed into law by the Governor, my bill moved the deadline to Monday, April 10th, avoiding the conflict and ensuring a chag Pesach sameach for all.

Optometry Licensing (A03158)

This bill, which I worked on with Senator Liz Krueger, addresses the shortage of optometrists in New York by allowing optometry students who are studying in a different state to engage in supervised clinical practice, and therefore get their careers started here.

Spousal Liability (A02892)

Under New York State law prior to last year, your car insurance company was not required to cover your spouse if they were injured in an accident where you were at fault. This law has changed that, ensuring drivers are afforded this protection by default.

2023

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CONTACT US



My office is here year-round to serve you. Whether you would like to raise a community concern, could use assistance navigating state agencies, or would like to share a policy suggestion: please do not hesitate to reach out!

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