



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am proud to announce the passage of my two pieces of legislation expanding home care access and requiring a health department report on the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) Program. We are working to reduce costs for older New Yorkers and expedite delivery of services to those who need them the most.

This week, I spoke at an Older New Yorkers Day ceremony honoring volunteers statewide who work on behalf of senior citizens. I presented Acting Director of NYSOFA Greg Olsen with a resolution passed by the Assembly designating May 27, 2025, as Older New Yorkers Day by Governor Hochul, recognizing the vibrant contributions of the over-60 cohort.

At a Capitol press conference this week, we called for the passage of critically needed reforms to the rent freeze and homeowners' exemption programs in New York City. The legislation for which we are advocating will extend eligibility to more tenants and homeowners and make housing more affordable.

There is a City Primary Election on Tuesday, June 24. In New York, eligible voters can register to vote until June 14 to be eligible to vote in the Primary Election. You can check your voter registration status [here](#). More information on the registration deadlines for the Mayoral Primary is enclosed in this report.

Please join us for a community event our office is pleased to sponsor:

- **No-Cost Notary Public Service** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets)
  - Mon, Wed, Fri from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
  - Tues, Thurs from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, June 3 at 3:30 pm: **No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets). To make a reservation, please call 212-288-4607.
- Wednesday, June 4, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm: **MetroCard Sales/OMNY Bus** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets). Refill your MetroCard/OMNY card or apply for a reduced fare card.

As always, please consider our office your resource.

Phone: 212.288.4607  
Email: [SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov](mailto:SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov)

Sincerely,

**Aging Chair Seawright's Bills Unanimously Pass NYS Assembly to Expand Homecare and Respite Care Without a Prescription and to Mandate the Health Commissioner to Report on Use of Elder Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (EPIC)**

**Major Wins for Aging Community Follow Recent Passage of Seawright Legislation to Reauthorize the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program**



Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright, Chair of the Assembly Aging Committee, announced the unanimous passage of legislation to elevate the system of care, identify potential cost savings, and advance quality of life for New York's nearly five million older adults.

Assembly Bill 7907 greatly expands access to the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP), a critical initiative that extends an elder's ability to age in their own home or community, versus more costly institutional care by eliminating the physician's prescription requirement for non-medical in-home, respite care, and ancillary services. The bill also empowers Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), who are responsible for coordinating EISEP services, by disposing of cost-sharing analysis requirements, which had proven to be fiscally unsound and counterproductive, unburdening these offices to focus on more efficient service delivery.

Assembly Bill 8090 requires the State Department of Health to produce a report for the Governor on the 2022-26 utilization of the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) Program, including granular data on enrollees—such as the total number and the percentage who are Medicare Savings Program-eligible—and benefits, like the number of participating provider pharmacies. More than 325,000 income-eligible seniors aged 65+ receive affordable prescription medication in New York State. However, there have been numerous changes to EPIC in the past several years. This report would analyze trends, evaluate cost containment, and provide enrollment and cost projections for 2027-28. With this information, legislators would be better equipped to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the program to serve more older New Yorkers.

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**Aging Chair Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Speaks at Older New Yorkers Day Event Honoring Volunteers Statewide**



Seawright remarked, ***“Older New Yorkers enrich their communities in all facets of society. Yet too often they are still reduced to outdated caricatures in popular culture and everyday life. My colleagues and I will continue to marshal our resources and our energies for our older adults, as well as support New Yorkers like you who have contributed so much toward elevating the quality of life for our communities.”***



*Barbara Baer and Linda Hoffman*

Assembly Member Seawright recognized two leaders from Manhattan, including the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens' Linda Hoffman and Barbara Baer. Linda is the President and CEO, and Barbara is the Director of the Home Share and Respite Care programs, recently renamed in honor of the late former Congressman Charles B. Rangel and his wife, Alma Rangel, a longtime board member.

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**Seawright Speaks with Internet Safety Advocate Graeme Page on the Introduction of New Legislation in New York to Protect Children Online**



Graeme is a 22-year-old entrepreneur, investor, and philanthropist. He currently serves as CEO of Skyll (like Skill), an education-technology company devoted to shielding children from online predators. Graeme has always been an entrepreneur. At age 11, he built a multimillion-dollar influencer-marketing agency for popular entertainment companies such as Disney and Warner Bros. At 17, Graeme's girlfriend, Nicole, tragically lost her life by suicide following abuse by an online predator. Graeme founded Skyll to protect child victims like Nicole. He also developed Deputy, an AI-powered app that detects online dangers, delivers safety education, and coordinates content takedowns. Deputy has been dubbed the first "911 for children on the internet." It will launch in all West Virginia Public Schools in August. Graeme worked to pass internet-safety education laws in West Virginia, Virginia, Michigan, and Tennessee. He also helped pass the federal Take It Down Act, which protects victims of non-consensual intimate imagery. Graeme also serves on the board of the Safe Surfin' Foundation.

### **Seawright Introduces Internet Safety Advocates Graeme Page and Kelly Tofolo to the NYS Assembly**



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### **Seawright Speaks at a Press Conference at the Capitol Calling for Reforms to the City's Rent Freeze and Homeowners Exemption Programs**



Assembly Member Sawright spoke at a press conference to press for the passage of legislation to expand the eligibility of the city programs that keep housing costs affordable for older New Yorkers. AARP and the Center for an Urban Future studies revealed that more than a quarter million older adults in New York City are living in poverty, a forty percent surge over the last decade. Sixty percent of those over 70 do not have a stable source of retirement income. The current income threshold for the rent freeze is \$50,000 dollars. Accounting for inflation, today the threshold should be \$67,000 dollars. Programs like the rent freeze and homeowners' exemptions help our older New Yorkers to age in place with dignity and independence and desperately need to be updated to account for today's standards.

## Statement on the Passing of Former Representative Charlie Rangel



*"I join our city, state, and nation in mourning the passing of Congressman Charles B. Rangel. Congressman Rangel served his country with courage as a decorated combat infantryman in*

*Korea and with distinction as the first Black chair of the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee.*

*His extraordinary record of public service began at the New York State Assembly, where Congressman Rangel's legacy continues to resonate: Today, I am recognizing leaders of a non-profit organization serving older adults whose pioneering home share and respite program was recently renamed after Charles and his late wife Alma, a longtime advocate for older New Yorkers.*

*I send my heartfelt condolences to his son Steven, daughter Alicia, his grandchildren, and his beloved Harlem community."*

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## **Seawright Hosts No-Cost Paper Shredding on 79 Street and York Avenue to Recycle Old Documents and Protect Personal Identifying Information**



Nancy Houghton, former Executive Director of Health Advocates for Older People, and Jacob Plottel, Special Assistant for Community Relations.



Over 400 constituents came to the no-cost community shredding.

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## **The Offices of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Congressman Jerry Nadler Hosted Mobile Constituent Service Hours at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House**



Hannah Weirnerman, Community Liaison for Rep. Jerry Nadler, and Jacob Plottel, Special Assistant for Community Relations for Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, help constituents with federal and state casework.

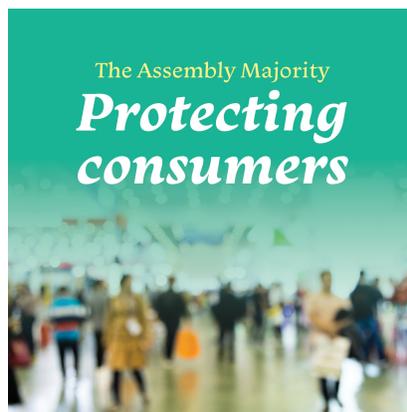
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**Assembly Member Seawright, LGBT Network's Dr. David Kilmnick, and Jean Shafiroff Advocate for the Passage of the NYS LGBT Curriculum Bill**



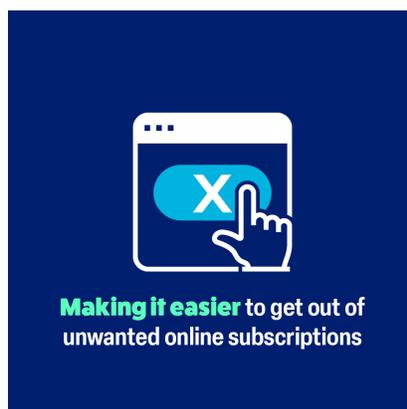
## Legislative Updates

### Consumer Protections Pass Assembly



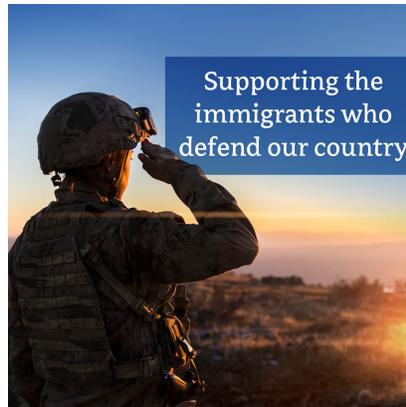
I'll always stand up for families over greedy corporations. That's why I recently helped pass legislation to protect consumers from predatory fees (A.1799, A.6766, A.57-B) and prohibit employers from making discriminatory employment decisions based on credit history (A.1316). These measures would cut costs for everyday New Yorkers and protect employees personal credit history.

### Click to Cancel Law



Have you struggled to cancel an expensive or unused subscription service? Did you give up after encountering endless website menus or phone call wait times? I helped pass a new “Click to Cancel” law that will require subscription services to provide simple, clear cancellation methods. New Yorkers will now be able to get out of their unwanted automatic renewals with less of a hassle.

## Alex E. Jimenez New York State Military Immigrant Family Legacy Program



New York is committed to honoring the sacrifices of those who serve our nation and their families. A new state law—establishing the Alex R. Jimenez New York State Military Immigrant Family Legacy Program—assists veterans, foreign-born family members of veterans, and active service members in securing legal immigration status (Ch. 625 of 2024). While no words can fully express our gratitude, this measure takes meaningful action to ease their path to citizenship.

## Voter Registration Deadlines and Important Information for the Upcoming Primary

Last Day to Register to Vote	June 14
First Day of Early Voting	June 14
Last Day of Early Voting	June 22
Election Day	June 24 (Polls are open from 6am to 9pm)
Deadline to request an absentee or early mail ballot (online)	June 14
Deadline to request an absentee or early mail ballot (in person)	June 23
Deadline to return an absentee or early mail ballot	June 24

[Check your voter registration](#)

Request a mail-in ballot

Track your mail-in ballot

Find your poll site and see a sample ballot

## Consider Our Office Your Resource



### NO-COST NOTARY PUBLIC SCHEDULE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10AM-1PM	10AM-12PM	10AM-1PM	10AM-12PM	10AM-1PM

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER**

**REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**



# HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY**

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY  
AT 3:30 PM ATTORNEYS FROM  
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE  
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL  
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-  
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-  
COST FOR CONSTITUENTS OF  
THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

**A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL  
HOST A ONE -ON-ONE SESSION  
WITH ATTENDEES.**

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!



**SCAN ME TO  
RSVP!**

**RSVP REQUIRED:  
CALL: 212-288-4607**

**EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**

*The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlord- tenant law.  
The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorney- client relationship.  
Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.*

# Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's App is Live!

Stay Up-To-Date with the latest:

- News
- Events
- Legislation
- Livestream
- Media

Available on iPhone and iPad



## Resources

At [GoodCauseNYC.org](https://www.GoodCauseNYC.org), a brand-new website, NYC tenants can enter their address and answer a short set of questions to determine if their apartment unit is eligible for protections, and access resources to fight back against an unjust rent hike or lease nonrenewal. The site also includes a rent increase calculator to help renters determine if their rent hike is considered "unreasonable" by the law.

**The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** can cover the cost of fans and air conditioners for eligible New Yorkers. To find out if you qualify, visit: [otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/#cooling-assistance](https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/#cooling-assistance).

### Cash Assistance Benefits Skimming Alert

Beware of attempts to steal your EBT benefits electronically through skimming or phishing. To learn more and file an online claim for stolen Cash Assistance benefits, go to [nyc.gov/site/hra/help/benefitreplacement.page](https://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/benefitreplacement.page)

### New York's Paid Family Leave Program

Since first launching in 2018, New York State Paid Family Leave has provided critical benefits to improve the lives of tens of thousands of working New Yorkers and their families. In addition to ongoing enhancements, the wage replacement benefits continue to increase in line with the New York State Average Weekly Wage. Click here to learn how Paid Family Leave may be able to help you and your family in 2025. Visit: [paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/2025](https://paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/2025)

### Empire State Child Credit

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance is issuing supplemental Empire State Child Credit payments to over 1.5 million low- and moderate-income New Yorkers. The 2024–2025 New York State budget provides for an additional payment to eligible taxpayers based on the Empire State child credit. If you qualify for a payment, you don't need to do anything; we will automatically calculate and send you a check for the amount you're entitled to. For more details, visit [the Additional Empire State Child Credit Payments](#).

### Energy Affordability Programs

The NYS Energy Affordability Program provides income-eligible consumers with a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills. You may be enrolled automatically if you receive benefits from a government assistance program. For more information, visit [this ConEd webpage](#) and click the "download form" button in the Energy Affordability Program box (or click [this link directly to download the pdf](#)). Or call 800-752-6633; the seniors-only direct line is 800-404-9097, M-F, 8:30 am–5 pm.

### Regular HEAP Benefit

The 2024-25 Regular HEAP benefit reopened January 25, 2025. Find out if you may be

eligible to apply for programs and services. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year to help you pay for heating your home. Visit: [otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/](https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/)

### **Health Insurance**

New Yorkers can enroll in a Qualified Health Plan by the 15th of the month for coverage starting the 1st of the following month and benefit from new cost-sharing reductions for additional savings. Visit [nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage](https://nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage) or call 347-665-0214 to connect with an enrollment counselor and get more information.

### **HIICAP**

Approximately 500 trained HIICAP counselors located in local offices for the aging across the state are available to answer New Yorkers' questions about Medicare, Medicare Advantage programs (managed care), Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medigap, and other health and long-term care insurance. Counseling is also available through a toll-free HIICAP helpline at 1-800-701-0501. Visit: [aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap](https://aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap)

### **Renters Rights**

In New York City, tenants have many rights relating to the safety and quality of their housing. Tenants should expect to live in safe, well-maintained buildings that are free from vermin, leaks, and hazardous conditions. [Laws protect tenants from harassment and discrimination](#). For more information on tenants' rights, please see the [Tenant Bill of Rights](#).

### **Homeowner Handbook**

Homeowner Help NY offers a comprehensive guide to help New York homeowners navigate the responsibilities of homeownership and access available resources in their time of need. To view the handbook, visit [homeownerhelpny.org/handbook](https://homeownerhelpny.org/handbook).

### **Property Tax Exemptions**

It's time to renew property tax exemptions, including SCHE, DHE, and the Clergy Exemption, for the 2025-26 tax year. The deadline to renew is March 15, 2025. Visit [nyc.gov/contactdof](https://nyc.gov/contactdof) or call 311 for details.

### **Mental Health Hotline**

There's a three-digit phone hotline, 988, for mental health. Call 911 for mental health emergencies.

### **Mobile ID**

Ever forget your wallet and wish you had your ID on you? Now you can with New York Mobile ID! Just download the app, and a highly secure digital version of a state-issued driver's license, learner's permit, or ID will be on your smartphone whenever you need it. [More info here](#).

### **NYCDOT Street Work Permit Maps**

The NYC DOT provides a street work permit map for our district so New Yorkers can have access to any active street work information in real time. You can view the map here: <https://nycdot.info/>

### **Attention MTA Reduced-Fare customers**

Your half-fare benefit is moving to OMNY! Look for your new Reduced-Fare OMNY card in the mail soon, and [check this page for updates](#). Continue to use your Reduced-Fare MetroCard in the meantime.

### **MTA Mobile Sales**

Services offered at mobile sales vehicles

- Get help with a Reduced-Fare application
- Get more information about OMNY and sign up
- Transfer MetroCard balances (full-fare and Reduced-Fare to OMNY account)
- Report a lost/stolen Reduced-Fare MetroCard
- Ask our team about any OMNY-related issues

Note: Mobile sales buses and vans are making credit card transactions for OMNY only. You can still buy a MetroCard using cash. Check this site for the sales bus schedule:

[www.mta.info/fares/mobile-sales](https://www.mta.info/fares/mobile-sales)

### **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits**

New changes include providing a simplified one-page application form, allowing older New Yorkers to recertify their benefits for 36 months instead of 24 months, and eliminating the interview requirement for recertification. To learn more about SNAP and apply for benefits,

[click here.](#)

### Unclaimed Funds

Check to see if you or someone you know may have unclaimed funds via this tracker by NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli: [osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?fbclid=IwAR2JRsjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQiBqIoud2O141dOUbqPWOjooIlaO8Qi7xxTFw](https://osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?fbclid=IwAR2JRsjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQiBqIoud2O141dOUbqPWOjooIlaO8Qi7xxTFw)

### Community Service Society of New York

Need healthcare assistance or an advocate on your side when dealing with a medical bill, insurance denial, or a confusing notice? Call the Community Health Advocates hotline at 1-888-614-5400 and receive help today!

### Congestion Pricing Discounts and Exemptions

Vehicles entering Manhattan streets at or below 60th St. will be tolled. Most E-ZPass users will pay \$9 during peak hours or \$2.25 overnight, once daily. Discounts and exemptions, such as the Low-Income Discount or Disability Exemption plans, are available—learn more at [mta.info/discounts](https://mta.info/discounts). Update your E-ZPass account to ensure accurate toll rates and credits. For details, visit [congestionreliefzone.mta.info](https://congestionreliefzone.mta.info).

### Animal Care Centers of NYC need your help!

Due to a temporary suspension of dog intake, they're calling on the community to step up and adopt. If you're ready to welcome a furry friend into your home, visit a local ACC Center or [check out their website for more details](#).

### Emergency Preparedness

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) will keep you informed and prepared during emergencies through the Notify NYC alert system. Sign up at [nyc.gov/notify](https://nyc.gov/notify) or by calling 311.

### Curbside Composting

Curbside Composting service is now available to ALL NYC residents citywide. Compost is picked up every week on your recycling day.

Visit: [www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/residents/curbside-composting.page](https://www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/residents/curbside-composting.page)

## Upcoming Events



The poster features the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House logo at the top, which includes a red building icon and the text 'LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE SINCE 1894'. Below the logo, the text 'LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE' is written in a smaller font, followed by 'FIRST AVENUE STREET FESTIVAL' in large, bold, dark letters. A red wavy banner below the title contains the text 'ARTS, FOOD, COMMUNITY & FUN!'. The central part of the poster is a collage of three photos: a red tent with 'LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE' on it, a person in a red outfit performing a dance with a pink fan, and a person playing a keyboard on a street. At the bottom, there are two icons: a clock icon next to the text 'Saturday, May 31 10AM-5PM' and a location pin icon next to the text 'First Avenue between 70th - 79th Streets'.

## First Avenue Street Fair East 70 to 79 Streets

Saturday, May 31 from 10am-5pm



cb8m.com

@CB8M

@CB8Manhattan

Postponed to Sun, June 1st  
from 11 am to 4 pm

# ART SHOW

## on the East Side

James Cagney Place  
East 91st Street, Between 2nd and 3rd Avenues  
Presented by Community Board 8 Manhattan



Roosevelt Island  
Operating Corporation



# Pride Flag Raising

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June 2, 2025

11:00 AM

Blackwell House

500 Main Street



# ROOSEVELT ISLAND DAY

Saturday,  
June 7, 2025

50

Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
Residents Living on Roosevelt Island!

Games | Inflatables | Kids Activities  
Food | Music | Community Booths  
Giveaways | And More!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH**



**JUNE 7TH**

Rain Date: June 8th



**11AM-4PM**



**FIREFIGHTERS  
FIELD**



**Roosevelt Island  
Operating Corporation**

Join us for a special public forum

**Tuesday, June 10 @ 6:30 pm**

**on Zoom**

# **Social Security**

**And other retirement funding options:**

**What You Need to Know Now**

## **Expert Speakers:**



**Dr. Eric Kingson**, Professor Emeritus, Syracuse University, and Co-Founder and Board Chair, Social Security Works.

**Beth Finkel**, New York State Director, AARP.

**William Bader**, Attorney, CPA, and author of *Optimize Your 401(k)*.

**Jeffrey Levy**, Founder and President, Harland Financial Services Corporation.



Please visit [www.cb8m.com](http://www.cb8m.com), or scan the QR code on the left.

Sponsored by Community Board 8 Manhattan, this virtual event is free and open to the public.

[Community Update: May 23, 2025](#)

[Community Update: May 16, 2025](#)

[Community Update: May 9, 2025](#)

[Community Update: May 2, 2025](#)

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