



Assemblymember
Chris Burdick

Representing the 93rd Assembly District

Dear Friends,

This year marks my sixth year as your Assemblymember. **I continue to be excited to come to work every day to serve the residents of the 93rd Assembly District**, which includes Bedford, Harrison, Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, New Castle, North Castle, North Salem, Pound Ridge, and a little over half of White Plains. I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to represent you.

In the Assembly, I serve on the Banks, Correction, Environmental Conservation, Housing, People with Disabilities, and Veterans' Affairs Committees. I also serve as Chair of the Subcommittee on Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities, and have continued to make expanding such opportunities legislative and budgetary priorities.

Since the legislative session ended in early June, I have been back in the district, meeting with constituents, nonprofits, and my colleagues in government, as I strive to do all that I can to support our municipalities and communities. Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of any assistance in dealing with a New York

State agency, such as the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Veterans' Services, or the Department of Labor.

Finally, as always, if you have questions or concerns about legislation, the budget, or any other issue regarding our state government, please don't hesitate to contact me.



Hearing from those I represent allows me to do my job better.

Chris Burdick

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2026 Legislative Session Recap

On Friday, June 5, the 2026 legislative session officially concluded after months of negotiations, debates, and late nights in Albany.

The Legislature passed 759 bills this year, with much of the session dominated by negotiations over the state's budget. Even so, **the session saw great outcomes in terms of legislation and funding for the 93rd Assembly District.**

Whether it is universal pre-K, working to improve the quality of life for our veterans and people with disabilities, protecting our immigrant neighbors, or reforming the utility rate-setting process, **my colleagues and I have been focused on doing all we can to improve the lives of New Yorkers.**

FY 2027 Budget Highlights

In late May, the FY 2027 budget (covering April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027) was passed by the legislature and signed into law. The \$268.5 billion budget – **which did not increase income taxes** – is comprehensive, fiscally sound, meets the needs of my district and the state as a whole, and reflects the values of the people.

Key provisions include:

Education, Universal Pre-K, and Childcare – State funding for school aid was set at \$39 billion and provides a 2% minimum year-over-year increase to Foundation Aid for our public schools, helping to hold down property taxes and maintain the excellence of our schools. **The budget provided a path to universal Pre-K for all four-year-old children statewide by the start of the 2028-29 school year.**



Reforming the Utility Rate-Setting Process – With thousands of ratepayers pressing for restraint on skyrocketing utility bills, the budget included the most comprehensive utility rate-setting reforms in decades, including:

- Requiring utility companies proposing a rate increase to present a budget-constrained option tied to inflation
- Prohibiting hidden expenses such as lobbying, political contributions, and unnecessary executive travel from being charged to customers
- Tying executive compensation to customer affordability
- Directing the Public Service Commission (PSC) to limit the extent to which the costs of pursuing a rate increase can be charged to ratepayers (I had introduced a bill to effectuate this [A5402B], and am very pleased that it was incorporated into the budget instead and is now law).

Protections for our Immigrant Neighbors – The budget included provisions prohibiting local government cooperation in federal civil immigration matters, ending agreements that deputize law enforcement as immigration officers, and designating sensitive locations (healthcare facilities, houses of worship, schools, childcare facilities, playgrounds, and polling places) where ICE may not conduct immigration enforcement.

An Expanded Veterans Property Tax Exemption – The budget gave local governments the option to provide a full property tax exemption for veterans who have a permanent and total service-related disability, as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Increased Funding for the Environment – I am pleased that the budget included a \$1 billion appropriation for the Sustainable Futures fund, \$450 million for the Environmental Protection Fund, \$525 million for the Clean Water Infrastructure Act, and \$175 million for water infrastructure related to housing development. I am, however, disappointed with the rollbacks of timelines and standards under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). The 2019 CLCPA stands as the leading climate law in the nation – a blueprint for reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions while also transitioning from fossil fuels to more stable, dependable, and less expensive renewable energy. I will continue to press for the investments needed to move us forward.

I am delighted to report that the following key appropriations, for which I advocated, were included in the budget:

- \$200 million for SUNY maintenance capital and \$100 million for SUNY research facilities, as well as \$100 million for SUNY to self-finance projects. Funding for deferred capital maintenance was and continues to be a top priority for me, and while I was pleased we were able to secure this funding, a great deal more will be needed in the coming years to help clear the backlog and ensure the SUNY system continues to be one of the top public higher educational systems in the country.
- \$175 million for the Galleria District project in White Plains – a \$2 billion development which will provide 800 affordable housing units that will benefit the entire county and beyond, remediate “brownfields” (contaminated sites), and provide union jobs under a project labor agreement.
- \$75 million for Public Housing Authorities outside of New York City
- \$5 million in capital for ArtsWestchester
- \$4 million for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success (SWDPS), a grant program administered by the NYS Department of Education to ensure a seamless transition from support in high school to support in both public and private higher education.
- \$350,000 for Latino U College Access
- \$280,000 for the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester to support its after-school program
- \$200,000 for the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center
- \$100,000 for Feeding Westchester

Post-Budget Legislative Highlights

In addition to policy that was passed in the budget, the following legislation was passed this session and – as of the time of publication – is awaiting the Governor’s signature:

The Responsible Data Center Development Act (A11560) – A bill aimed at regulating the rapid expansion of data centers throughout New York, including a one-year moratorium on new permits for facilities requiring 20 megawatts or more, and directing the Department of Environmental Conservation to study the impacts of data centers on public water supplies, agricultural land, and electronic waste.

Artificial Intelligence Protections (A10379C) – A bill prohibiting artificial intelligence companies from using features that are considered unsafe for minors.

The One Fair Price Act (A9349B) – A bill that targets “surveillance pricing” by prohibiting companies from using consumers’ personal data to set individualized prices for identical products or services. One consumer should not be forced to pay more than another because of such predatory pricing practices.

Veterans Fees Exemption (A10921A) – A bill that exempts disabled veterans from certain fees relating to physical modification of a residence to accommodate a disability.

My Sponsored Legislation

I am also pleased that a number of bills I sponsored successfully passed both chambers and are awaiting the Governor’s signature.

The Traveling with Dignity Act: A6219B establishes requirements, timelines, and guidelines for the installation of adult changing accommodations in public spaces. Adult changing facilities are an essential resource for adults with mobility limitations, enabling them to access the same amenities as those who are ambulatory.



The Neurodiversity Training Pledge: A00038 directs the New York State Department of Labor to establish a voluntary training and certification program for employers that pledge to undertake neurodiversity training for their employees and adopt best practices for a neurodiverse workforce.

The HEFPA Protection Act: A10160A ensures that public assistance payments for residential gas and electric service are accepted and credited by utilities, and immediately triggers the consumer protections of the Home Energy Fair Practices Act (HEFPA).

Notice of Initial Determinations for Unemployment Benefits: A3068 requires the Department of Labor to notify unemployment benefit applicants within 30 days whether their claim has been approved or denied.

The Criminal Court Opinion Transparency Act: A4674A increases transparency of New York legal decisions in criminal proceedings by reporting on the feasibility, costs, and implementation options for publishing trial-level criminal court decisions and suppression decisions specifically.

Constitutional Amendments

The following NYS constitutional amendments will go up for a vote again next year by both chambers of the NYS Legislature and, if passed, may go to the voters as early as the 2027 general election.

Congressional Redistricting Amendment: This amendment responds to redistricting efforts around the country and a recent Supreme Court decision that weakens portions of the Voting Rights Act. The proposal would give New York greater flexibility in determining congressional district boundaries. If approved again by the next Legislature in 2027 and approved by voters in a statewide referendum, the changes would allow congressional districts to be redrawn before the 2028 elections. *(Note that this proposal does not affect the 2026 Congressional election.)*

Even-Year Elections Amendment: This amendment addresses low voter turnout in off-year elections by aligning certain local elections with federal and state election cycles. Holding these elections in even-numbered years will increase voter participation and reduce the administrative costs of running separate countywide elections.

The proposal would require elections for certain municipal and judicial officials, except in New York City, to take place in even-numbered years. To facilitate the transition, it would also authorize the Legislature to enact laws creating temporary, altered terms of office so that future election cycles fall on even-numbered years.

Fighting Utility Increases

I have continued to advocate for my constituents by participating in cases before the Public Service Commission (PSC).

Two of my staff members and I have become intervenors (parties) in the NYSEG/RG&E rate case after previously being intervenors in the ConEd case, giving us a seat at the table during this process. NYSEG has requested a 23.7% increase in electric delivery rates and a 33.5% increase in gas delivery rates.

The NYSEG case has followed a different course than the ConEd case because, instead of going directly into confidential settlement negotiations among the intervenors, we went into litigation. Litigation consisted of in-person cross-examinations in Albany between the parties and NYSEG/RG&E. That portion of the case concluded, and we were awaiting a proposal from the Department of Public Service (DPS) judges. Instead, the decision was then made to go into confidential settlement negotiations.

As an intervenor on the case, I have submitted interrogatories, direct testimony, and cross-examined NYSEG during litigation. My office will remain directly involved in this process until the end. Utility rates are out of control, and I know that my constituents are struggling.



The Condition of Our Roads

The condition of our state roads continues to be one of the top issues for my constituents, and I share your frustration. **Please know that I am in constant contact with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) regarding the roads in my district that need repair and repaving.** Along with my Westchester colleagues, I also advocate to the Governor's team for more budget funding for our region every year.

I wish to thank each of you for calling and writing to share your thoughts and experiences on the roads. It is very helpful to me and my team. We encourage you to continue reaching out to our office, and we also ask that you contact the DOT directly. Having complaints on the record at the DOT from our constituents helps

to support our efforts. The following are the DOT contacts for your area, whom you can reach out to regarding road conditions, especially emergency conditions such as severe potholes.

- **Northern Westchester County** (which includes Bedford, Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, New Castle, North Castle, North Salem, and Pound Ridge): 914-232-3060
- **Southern Westchester County** (which includes White Plains and Harrison): 914-592-6557
- Please also call **1-800-POTHOLE** (1-800-768-4653) to report potholes.

PFAS Pilot Program

In May, I joined with County Executive Ken Jenkins, State Senator Pete Harckham, State Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblymember Dana Levenberg, and Westchester County Board of Legislators Chair Vedat Gashi to herald the launch of Westchester County's Private Well PFAS Testing and Mitigation Rebate Program. **This pilot program is available to eligible homeowners, renters, and businesses.**

Last year, Senator Harckham and I helped secure state funding for this pilot program, and **I am very pleased that Westchester County is among the six counties participating.** We fought hard for this program, as it is greatly needed. My district includes much of northern Westchester, and we have many homeowners and small business owners here who rely on private wells. PFAS testing and remediation can be exorbitantly expensive, and our goal is for everyone to have safe, clean drinking water.

PFAS, sometimes referred to as "forever chemicals," persist in the environment and have been linked to adverse health effects. While public water systems are regularly tested and regulated, private wells are not, making PFAS programs critical to protecting residents who rely on private wells for drinking water.

Eligible residents can receive free PFAS testing for their private well. If contamination is detected at or above New York State drinking water standards, participants may also qualify for rebates up to \$5,000 for water treatment systems, or up to \$10,000 to connect to a public water supply.

To learn more, go to www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/privatewellspilot.

Supporting Our Incredible Nonprofits



As a member of the Assembly, I am fortunate to be able to designate nonprofit organizations for grant funding and to advocate for additional state financial support. Additionally, my Westchester colleagues and I collaborate to secure critical funds in the state budget, including those discussed in the budget section.

Among the groups we have been able to help since I joined the Assembly are African American Men of Westchester, ArtsWestchester, the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester, El Centro Hispano, Endeavor Therapeutic Horsemanship, Friends of Karen, Girls

Inc. Westchester, Hope's Door, the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center, Hillside Food Outreach, the Hudson Valley Justice Center, Latino U College Access, Lifting Up Westchester, The LOFT LGBTQ+ Community Services Center, Make the Road, My Sister's Place, The Pantry (formerly The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry), Mount Kisco Child Care Center, S.P.E.A.K., The Westchester Youth Alliance, and Yes She Can.

All of these organizations help to keep our communities safe and thriving. I'm grateful that I'm able to help with funding, as they are essential to the well-being of our residents.

Thank You to Our Amazing Interns

Once again, my office had a wonderful group of interns during the school year and summer: Morgan Annar-Brady, James Clendenin, Rachel Horesh, Laila Kean, Heather Millman, Ethan Mishler, Henry Muns, Andrew Nam, Rhea Narayanan, Zack Reinmann, Daniella Reznikov, Hasti Shahdad, Matthew Simpson, Avani Shandilya, Caroline Sunwoo, Avni Sundaram, Emma Tong, Luísa Vieira, Isabel Wang, Erin Williams, and Hanna Zhao. During the final week of the session, I was delighted to introduce a number of them on the floor of the Assembly, after which they had the opportunity to speak with the Speaker of the Assembly, Carl Heastie.

In addition to assisting my office with sorting emails, answering phones, and conducting research, those who completed their senior internship with my office (Hasti, Heather, Avni, and Rhea) finished their internship with an assignment that included creating their own legislation and choosing a separate project. These seniors did an amazing job, and we can't wait to see the exciting places they go as they embark on their next exciting chapter.

Our interns are invaluable to my staff, and we are incredibly grateful for all of their time and assistance.



New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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