

Corrections1, February 13, 2025

*Corrections officers  
injured in ‘chaos’ at  
N.Y. prison as  
inmates take over dorms*

Corrections1, March 10, 2025

*N.Y. fires over  
2,000 corrections officers  
as prison strike ends  
after 22 days*

PRSRT STD.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Albany, NY  
Permit No. 75

New York State Assembly  
Albany, NY 12248

A Special Report from



MATT  
**SIMPSON**  
STATE ASSEMBLY

# PROTECTING THOSE WHO PROTECT US

*Assemblyman Simpson’s  
Plan to Protect  
Prison Staff and  
Communities and  
Preserve Stability*



MATT  
**SIMPSON**  
STATE ASSEMBLY

# ASSEMBLYMAN SIMPSON'S PLAN TO PROTECT PRISON STAFF AND COMMUNITIES AND PRESERVE STABILITY:



MATT  
**SIMPSON**  
STATE ASSEMBLY

I'm always happy to hear what you think about how I can best serve you in the state Assembly. If you have any comments, questions or concerns on this or any state issue, please don't hesitate to visit my office at 4 Southwestern Ave. Suite 3, Queensbury, NY 12804 or call 1-518-792-4546.

## RESTORE SAFETY IN OUR PRISONS

### THE PROBLEM:

THE HALT ACT SEVERELY LIMITS SEGREGATED CONFINEMENT, TAKING AWAY A KEY TOOL USED TO MANAGE DANGEROUS, VIOLENT INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS.

### RIISING VIOLENCE IN PRISONS:

- 169% INCREASE IN INCARCERATED-INDIVIDUAL-ON- INCARCERATED-INDIVIDUAL ASSAULTS
- 76% INCREASE IN INCARCERATED-INDIVIDUAL-ON-STAFF ASSAULTS

*All since HALT became law.<sup>1</sup>*

### WHO'S PAYING THE PRICE:

CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ARE LEFT DEFENSELESS, CREATING DANGEROUS CONDITIONS FOR BOTH STAFF AND INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS.<sup>2</sup>

### HALT REPEALER (A.3217):

WOULD RESTORE BALANCE AND GIVE OFFICERS THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND OTHER INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS.

## HOLDING THE STATE ACCOUNTABLE ON CLOSED PRISONS (A.3252)



### WHAT IT DOES:

Requires New York State to pay local property taxes on closed state prison facilities until they're reopened, repurposed, or sold.



### WHY IT MATTERS:

Nearly 30 state prisons have been shut down in recent years,<sup>3</sup> hurting small towns that depended on them for jobs and economic stability.



### WHAT'S AT STAKE:

When the state abandons these properties, it's the local taxpayers who get stuck with the bill. This legislation ensures Albany lives up to its obligations and doesn't leave our communities behind.

*These common-sense proposals were held in committee and will not see a vote in the Assembly.*

1. <https://www.fingerlakes1.com/2025/02/24/assembly-republicans-renew-push-to-repeal-halt-act-amid-prison-safety-crisis/>

2. <https://www.timesunion.com/capitol/article/correction-officers-union-says-prison-conditions-20259114.php>

3. <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/politics/albany-watch/2025/01/09/great-meadow-sullivan-ny-prisons-closed-what-happened-to-the-workers/77478197007>

4. <https://www.wnnytv.com/2025/01/27/upstate-cos-nurses-stricken-again/>

5. [https://doccs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/06/prison-violence-task-force-report\\_june-2023\\_final.pdf](https://doccs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/06/prison-violence-task-force-report_june-2023_final.pdf) (pg. 22)

6. [https://doccs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/03/annual-ui-report-2021-final\\_1.pdf](https://doccs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/03/annual-ui-report-2021-final_1.pdf) (pg. 3)

## MANDATE BODY SCANNER USE FOR ALL VISITORS

ILLICIT DRUGS SMUGGLED INTO STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES BY VISITORS AND INMATES ENDANGER STAFF AND INMATES, AS SEEN IN A JANUARY 2025 INCIDENT AT AN UPSTATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY WHERE 20 EMPLOYEES NEEDED MEDICAL ATTENTION DUE TO DRUG EXPOSURE.<sup>4</sup> (A.5888)

## ESTABLISH A CONTRABAND SCREENING PLAN

CONTRABAND SMUGGLED INTO NEW YORK CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES FUELS VIOLENCE, LEADING TO A 79% INCREASE IN CONTRABAND INCIDENTS<sup>6</sup> (2012-2021) AND A 118% RISE IN ASSAULTS ON STAFF.<sup>5</sup> (A.6258)