

A Message From ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN



ASSEMBLY MEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN COMMUNITY BOARD 6 REPORT, MAY 2021

The warm weather is here and there's lots to do around the City. Get vaccinated against COVID-19 - it's free, easy, and you don't need an appointment at most sites. Read more below about how to get vaccinated.

The legislative session ends in mid-June and there is still lots of work to be done. I will keep you updated on the progress of my legislation as well as other important bills that I co-sponsor, such as the New York Health Act (NYHA), which would create a system of single payer healthcare in New York. I was proud to join with healthcare union workers, Assemblymember Gottfried, author of the bill, and Senator Rivera, the prime senator sponsor, to host a rally with healthcare workers in support of NYHA. Read more about that and other updates below.

Harvey

Walk-in COVID-19 Vaccinations Available at City and State-run Sites

As of Thursday, April 29, all New York State mass vaccination sites are open to all individuals 12 years of age and older that reside in the United States for walk-in vaccination on a first come first serve basis for all. The walk-in appointments are reserved for first doses only with second doses to be scheduled automatically after administration of the initial shot. Additionally, all vaccine providers are encouraged to likewise allow walk-in appointments and for eligible New Yorkers

City-run sites also allow for any New Yorker (age 16+) to walk-in and get a vaccine. Visit <https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/> and <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/> to find a site near you.

A Rally with Healthcare workers to pass the New York Health Act

We rallied with healthcare workers, patients, community members, and State legislators to pass the “New York Health Act” single-payer bill. The rally comes with just 12 session days remaining of a pivotal legislative session, in which the legislature advanced major progressive priorities.



The New York Health Act would create a comprehensive single-payer healthcare system for people who live or work in New York State. Under the plan, care would be provided free at the point of service. Patients have their choice of providers (including long-term and mental healthcare) without co-pays, deductibles or premiums. Most New Yorkers would pay less for care than they do now, with a more

comprehensive benefit package. A 2018 Rand Corporation study estimated the bill would create a net savings to the state over 10 years while also increasing coverage. New York’s uninsured rate hovers around five percent, or about a million people, according to data from the Census Bureau, but many more are underinsured and either delay or go without treatment or medication due to cost.

The New York Health Act is sponsored by 119 state legislators, including 86 Assemblymembers and 33 Senators. The legislators in attendance represented districts that collectively are home to over a dozen of the City’s busiest hospitals. The bill has the backing of key unions, including 1199 SEIU, NYS Nurses Association, and the Committee of Interns & Residents, who together represent nurses, doctors and other healthcare workers. In addition to insuring more New Yorkers and lowering healthcare costs for the state and consumers, the state would be in a better position to bargain down the costs of prescription drugs.

I look forward to working with labor and my colleagues to advance this critical piece of legislation in the final days of the 2021 legislative session.

Four of My Bills Are Voted Out of Committee

I'm happy to report that four of my bills cleared a major stage of the legislative process after being voted out of the committees to which they were referred. Read more about them below. I look forward to fighting to get these bills passed before the end of the session in mid-June.



A3320 Epstein -- Relates to stipulations in summary proceedings to recover possession of real property

This bill codifies an administrative order issued by the Civil Court Administrative Judge to ensure that housing court judges explain stipulations to unrepresented litigants while also maintaining judicial impartiality. Court proceedings are highly technical and difficult to understand for those without training; this bill would level the playing field between landlords with lawyers and tenants without lawyers.

A 3300 Epstein -- Requires a certificate of merit in proceedings to recover possession of real property

This bill would diminish the number of frivolous eviction cases by requiring the attorney filing the case to attest to the "meritoriousness" of the claims—a higher standard than what is currently required. Certificates of merit are already used in foreclosure actions and medical malpractice cases to

achieve the same purpose. We should also be applying them to eviction cases, where there is a similar opportunity for bad faith litigation to happen.

A3143 Epstein -- Ensures that the provisions governing liquor licenses are consistent with respect to public interest factors

This bill is aimed at ensuring that all the relevant factors are considered when the SLA makes a decision to grant a liquor license to certain establishments, and then making those factors consistent across the different types of licenses SLA grants, including bottle clubs and restaurant brewers. This bill adds two important additional factors: building and fire code violations and formal communications from a municipality or a community board, like in New York City

A3112A Epstein -- Relates to directing the division of human rights to promulgate regulations requiring housing providers to provide tenants with notice of their rights related to lawful source of income discrimination

This bill requires housing voucher recipients to be notified in writing of their rights with regard to source of income discrimination. In 2019, legislation was passed as part of the budget to prohibit housing discrimination based on lawful source of income. Too often, voucher holders are

discriminated against during their search for housing. This bill would ensure that voucher holders know their rights so they can exercise them and obtain housing.

Paper Shredding with Harvey

On May 13th I hosted a Paper Shredding event for constituents in the district to get rid of their important tax documents, files, and medical papers without the fear of fraud or someone accessing their information. I'm happy to share that we filled out the large shredder truck $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way. I look forward to hosting another paper shredding event in the summer of 2021. For information about events, email events.district74@gmail.com.



East Side Coastal Resiliency (ESCR) Updates

Advisory for the Start of Daytime Pile Installation at E23rd Street under the FDR Drive

- Starting the week of May 24, 2021, ongoing through June 2021
- During pile driving operations for the construction of the floodwall, noise is anticipated between the hours of 7:00am to 3:30pm
- See separate traffic shift advisories.
- Noise monitoring devices are in place.
- Daytime Pile Driving at the North End of Stuyvesant Cove Park near the E. 23rd Street entrance and Solar One Building continues
- Daytime Pile Driving at Asser Levy Playground continues

Link to all Advisories & Bulletins:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/escr/project-updates/construction-notices.page>

Upcoming Events

Forum on Ranked Choice Voting - 6/10 @6PM



RANK THE VOTE



Assembly Member
Harvey Epstein

**GET READY TO HIT THE POLLS BY
LEARNING ABOUT RANKED CHOICE
VOTING. PREPARE YOURSELF BY
EDUCATING YOURSELF!**

When: Jun 10, 2021 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Register in advance for this meeting:
events.district74@gmail.com**



Sponsored By:
Senator Brad Hoylman
Senator Liz Krueger
Council Member Carlina Rivera
Council Member Keith Powers

Join us for a forum on ranked choice voting on June 10th at 6 P.M. just in time for the New York City primary. Panelists from [Rank the Vote NYC](#) will walk participants through the ranking process and answer audience questions.

Feel free to contact Assembly Member Harvey Epstein's office with any questions or concerns.

Our office is located at

107 Avenue B (store front)

You can email us at help.district74@gmail.com or call us at 212-979-9696