



New York State Senator **BRAD HOYLMAN**



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REPORT TO COMMUNITY BOARD 6

Statement on Leaked Draft *Roe v. Wade* SCOTUS Opinion

The leaked Supreme Court draft decision by Justice Alito overturning *Roe v. Wade* is appalling and unprecedented. Fortunately, my colleagues and I pre-emptively passed the Reproductive Health Act in 2019 to codify abortion and contraception protections from *Roe* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* in our state law. We should do more to protect abortion access, such as passing [S.8778](#) to protect New York's abortion providers from out-of-state attacks; [S.758](#) to establish a state abortion access fund; [S.7002](#) to require that all private insurance plans in New York that offer maternity care coverage also cover abortion care; and my bill [S.470](#) to investigate unlicensed facilities that offer pregnancy-related services but not abortion options. I will fight to pass these bills before the legislative session ends on June 2.

Hoylman Bills on the Move

- S.6987 which I carry with Assembly Member Abinanti has passed the Senate and the Assembly and is off to the Governor's desk. This bill will ensure that toy guns will look distinct from real guns for a myriad of safety reasons.
- S.774B passed the Senate this week. This bill will help us keep a more accurate and relevant public record of populations by sexual orientation and gender identity or expression in the State of New York. I'm looking forward to working with Assembly Member Bronson to get this across the finish line in the assembly as well.

Redistricting Update

On April 27th, New York's highest court, the Court of Appeals, ruled in a 4-3 decision that the new district lines for the Senate and U.S. House of Representatives are unconstitutional and ordered that an independent expert, called a Special Master, to redraw the maps. The draft maps will be available on May 16 and finalized on May 20. As a result, the State Senate and Congressional primaries are postponed from June 28 to August 23. As of this report, all other primaries will continue as planned.

on June 28. Petitioning for the new districts will not be required for all candidates who already previously qualified for the ballot.

Penn Station Community Advisory Committee Working Group Update

On April 28, there was a meeting of the Community Advisory Committee Working Group (CACWG) for the Penn Station Redevelopment Project. At the meeting, Empire State Development (ESD) shared updates to the project based on recommendations from the CACWG, including updates around public realm improvements and sustainability. Our office has been convening a roundtable to make sure that additional social services for homeless individuals and other vulnerable populations are included in this project. I was pleased that ESD has taken into consideration some of the recommendations from that group. We still have many concerns that need to be addressed with the project, including the amount of housing provided and the financing of the project. I plan to continue to work closely with community stakeholders to ensure this project is done right, with the community's best interest in mind.



LGBTQ+ Healthcare Funding

I joined New York State Comptroller DiNapoli as well as my colleagues for a tour of the flagship Chelsea location of Callen-Lorde, a nation-leading LGBTQ+ comprehensive care center. We heard updates on Callen-Lorde's range of services, from walk-in HIV testing to mental health support to COVID testing and vaccinations. I joined Comptroller DiNapoli as he presented an unclaimed funds check to the center.

I'm proud to have Callen-Lorde in our Senate district.

Times Square Redevelopment

Last Friday, I attended the redevelopment launch of One Times Square. This iconic building is the site of the annual New Year's Eve ball drop, but otherwise has remained mostly empty and inaccessible to the public. The launch marked the beginning of a \$500 million redevelopment effort to convert the building into a visitors' center. Times Square plays an important role in New York's path to economic recovery and I'm happy to support this effort.

Open Meetings Law for Community Boards

The pandemic has shown us that holding meetings via videoconference makes them more accessible, but nothing can replace an in-person meeting. I was able to secure a provision in the budget allowing community boards and other public bodies to move forward with an optional hybrid meeting format.

For now, boards can continue meeting remotely until June 8. After that, community boards will be required to hold their meetings in-person, or they can switch to a hybrid model if they adopt a resolution to do so. A hybrid meeting is a meeting held both in-person and via videoconference, with a quorum of the board in-person. The location must be accessible to the public and the livestream must allow for remote participation. You can download a memo on this new statute [here](#). I am working with Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine on suggested legislative changes to the quorum requirement for our community boards.



Tenant Victory as Management Promises Ventilation Changes

I stood with the tenants of 225 West 23rd Street and 220 West 24th Street in calling on their landlord, Akelius Management, to provide sufficient ventilation in their building. In response to the press conference and court case filed by the tenants, Akelius Management announced that they would begin work to install a ventilation system in the building shortly. During a respiratory pandemic, providing proper ventilation in residential buildings is a simple and common-sense

way of protecting the health of tenants. I will continue working with the tenants to hold their landlords accountable and address the urgent issue of indoor air quality.

Fashion Workers Act Passes Senate Committee!

I am proud to announce that my Fashion Workers Act moved passed out of the Labor Committee this week. This update follows a rally that fashion workers held on “May Day” and the eve of the Met Gala, the most glamorous night in fashion to rally for their labor protections.

There is a loophole in our laws regulating employment and talent agencies for management agencies that leaves models and creatives unprotected, creating a lack of transparency and accountability on issues of ranging from timely payment to sexual abuse. Fashion accounts for nearly \$2 billion in tax revenue each year and is one of New York’s most important industries. It’s time we start treating workers like it. There’s nothing glam about not being paid for your labor.



Flood Insurance Disclosure Bill Passes Senate

The Senate passed my bill ([S. 5472](#)) requiring the disclosure of information concerning flood risk and insurance in residential property transactions, including leases. Last summer, we saw the damage that was done across the city by natural disasters supercharged by climate change. With these disasters coming more and more frequently every year, we cannot wait to protect home purchasers and make sure they have as much information as possible when making such a significant financial

investment. I'm thankful to my colleagues in the Senate for passing this bill and to Assemblymember Robert Carroll for sponsoring this bill in the Assembly.

Senate Passes My Bill Mandating Electric Vehicle Charging at State Facilities

The Senate recently passed my bill ([S.370A](#)) which requires all state owned and operated parking garages, open parking lots, and other parking facilities to install and maintain parking stations for plug-in electric vehicles. As we continue to combat the climate crisis, I will continue to work with my colleagues in Albany to do everything possible to ensure New York does its part to lower emissions and encourage consumers to make more sustainable choices. I am thankful to Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon for carrying this bill, and we look forward to this bill passing the Assembly.



Senate Passes the Adult Survivors Act!

The Senate recently passed our bill, the Adult Survivors Act (ASA) (S.66/ A.648), which I carry with Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal. This legislation would create a one-year window for the revival of time-barred civil lawsuits based on sex crimes committed against individuals who were 18 years of age or older. We've expanded the civil window for survivors of childhood sexual abuse with the successful Child Victims Act, and now the Senate moved to enact the same for adult survivors. Until 2019, New York's statute of limitations were prohibitively short for adult survivors. It's a matter of justice to give survivors whose abuse occurred before we changed the law their day in court.

My New Bill Designating NY as Safe Haven for Trans Kids

I recently introduced a new bill with Assembly Member Bronson ([S.8842](#)) to make New York a safe haven for transgender young people and their families. While other states like Texas and Louisiana are regressively criminalizing guardians who support their children in receiving gender-affirming care, New York can fight back. Our legislation, among other things, would keep families together by directing government agencies from cooperating with these backwards laws in other states.

Gender Recognition Act Update

I am thankful to announce that my bill, the Gender Recognition Act will be fully implemented on June 24th allowing anyone who identifies as non-binary to have a "Gender X" on their NY driver's license or birth certificate, and it will direct courts to issue orders granting petitions for change of sex designation upon receipt of the petitioner's gender identity affidavit. Additionally, automobile insurers doing business in New York that consider gender as a basis for premium rating must accommodate their insureds who select "Gender X." I am proud to lead this charge for our non-binary and gender non-confirming people in New York, and excited to see it fully implemented soon. The letter from the Department of Financial Services to the New York Insurance Industry can

be found here: [Insurance Circular Letter No. 7 \(2022\): Motor Vehicle Insurance and the Gender Recognition Act | Department of Financial Services \(ny.gov\)](#)



Rallying for Elder Parole

Every three days, someone dies inside a New York State prison. Of those deaths, 56% were people aged 55 or older. I joined the Release Aging People in Prison Campaign (RAPP) and Housing Works in Foley Square to advocate for the passage of my Elder Parole bill which will give people age 55 or older an opportunity for a parole hearing if they've served at least 15 years. This bill will save the state hundreds of millions of dollars of year and return individuals who meet the requirements for parole to

their families and communities.

Advocating for Medicaid Carve Out

At AIDS Memorial Park, I called on Governor Hochul to repeal the proposed Medicaid pharmacy benefit carve-out and support Assemblywoman Rosenthal and Senator Cleare's legislation in this regard, of which I'm a co-sponsor. If implemented, the carve-out could force providers to close 32 clinics across the state, which provide safety nets for vulnerable patients living with HIV/AIDS and other chronic conditions.

New Initiative to Contain Trash

A systemized containerized trash program is long overdue. I was glad to join Mayor Adams, Sanitation Commissioner Tisch, and our local City Council members to unveil the first bins for commercial use in Times Square. I'm hopeful that the commercial containerization and Clean Curbs pilot program will prove a success in making cleaner neighborhoods, keep the rats at bay, and create a more pleasant pedestrian experience.



Second Booster Doses for Eligible New Yorkers

The following New Yorkers are now eligible for a second COVID-19 vaccine booster of an mRNA (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) vaccine:

- Adults ages 50 years and older may choose to receive a second booster dose of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) at least four months after their first booster dose.

- New Yorkers ages 18–49 years who received the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine as both their primary series dose and initial booster dose may receive a second booster dose of an mRNA vaccine at least 4 months after their first booster dose.
- New Yorkers ages 12 and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised may choose to receive a second booster dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) at least four months after their first booster dose.

Center for Urban Community Services Resources

I am partnering with the Center for Urban Community Services to promote new resources they provide for anyone who may need them, including help with unemployment insurance, financial coaching, legal support services such as eviction protection assistance, and employment issues. Resources are free and open to any member of the public. If you or anyone else is interested, please call CUCS at 1-855-932-2827. Please reach out to my office at hoylman@nysenate.gov if you have any issues.

State Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

As of January 11th, 2022, the State Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) is accepting applications. ERAP funds can be used to help with rental arrears, utility arrears, and limited future rent payments. In the State Budget, we were able to secure \$800 million in new state funding for ERAP, and the State is also seeking more federal funding. Meanwhile, applying for ERAP will provide tenants with specific protections as a final determination on their application is pending. More information, including information on eligibility and a link to apply, can be found [here](#).

Order Free At-Home Test Online

The Biden Administration has announced that all Americans are now able to order four at-home tests at **no cost**. With the Omicron variant still being the dominant case of COVID-19, we must continue to stay vigilant. You can order for free [here](#). If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to my office at 212-633-8052 or hoylman@nysenate.gov.

Service: FREE Notary

It's getting harder to find notaries in the city. In response, I'm happy to offer my notary services for free to the community. If you are in need of notary services, please call me to make an appointment and I will personally notarize your documents. Proof of vaccination is required. Call 212-633-8052 to schedule an appointment.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

Visit <https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/locations> and enter your zip code to view all vaccination sites. You can filter by vaccine type and walk-up availability. If you are doing a walk-up appointment be sure to check the hours of the site before you go!

There are mobile vans and pop-up sites providing vaccines throughout all 5 boroughs. Check this site to see the location and times for the coming week:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/vaccines/covid-19-vaccines.page#nycmobilevax>

You can still schedule your appointment, including one just for a second dose. Visit <https://vax4nyc.nyc.gov/patient/s/> or call 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692).

Booster Shots

Boosters are widely available across New York City. Head here to learn more about eligibility or to find a location for you to receive a booster:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccines.page>

Who is eligible for a booster shot & which booster should you get?

People who received both doses of the **Pfizer or Moderna** vaccine at least five months ago are eligible for a booster shot. To receive a booster shot, you must be one of the following:

- 12+ with two vaccinations from either Pfizer or Moderna.
 - Those 12-17 are only approved for the Pfizer vaccine and booster at this time.
 - Those 18+ are approved for a booster from any brand, although it is recommended that they get a booster shot from the same brand.
- Everyone 18+ who received **Johnson & Johnson** at least two months ago should get a booster. While Johnson & Johnson recipients can get any of the three brands, the CDC recommends getting an mRNA booster (Pfizer) as they are more effective. If you're not sure which booster to get, speak with your doctor.

Reminders:

- At the vaccination site, you will receive a card with your name, date of birth, the vaccine you received, and the place and date you received it. Keep it in a safe place and make a photocopy or take a picture just in case you lose it. If you got the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, bring the card with you when you go for your second shot. If you are fully vaccinated but lost your COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card or need verification of your vaccine status, you can [request a copy of your COVID-19 vaccination record online](#). Vaccines are available at no cost to you and regardless of immigration status.
- The Excelsior Pass is a voluntary way to provide digital proof of vaccination on your smartphone. Businesses and entertainment venues can scan and validate the pass to ensure you meet any COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry. When using the pass, you'll be asked to show a photo ID that shows your name and birth date to verify identity. Visit <https://portal.311.nyc.gov/article/?kanumber=KA-03386> for more information about how to use the application.

COVID-19 Testing

NYC Health + Hospitals offers free, walk-in testing throughout the five boroughs. Visit <https://www.nychealthandhospitals.org/covid-19-testing-sites/> to view a schedule of locations and hours.

The Federal Government is now shipping rapid antigen tests to those who request them. To request four free at home tests, please visit <https://www.covidtests.gov/>. Please note that each address is limited to *one* four-test order. Tests began shipping via the US Postal Service in late January.

An appointment for at-home testing for those 65+ and immunocompromised individuals can be requested by calling (929) 298-9400 between 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM any day of the week.

Assistance for New Yorkers Who Test Positive for COVID

The Test & Trace Corps will make sure that anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 and their close contacts will have the resources needed to safely separate in a hotel free of charge or at home to help prevent the spread of the virus. To request a hotel room or learn more about how to safely separate in a hotel or at home, call 1-212-COVID19 (212-268-4319). Speaking with the Test & Trace Corps will not change your ability to apply for permanent residency (or “green card”).

NYC Health + Hospitals has two Community Health Centers in the Bronx and Queens dedicated to those recovering from COVID-19. Both centers provide short and long-term follow-up care for those recovering from COVID-19. For appointments, call 1 (844) NYC-4-NYC or 1-844-692-4692. 24-hour access to a health care provider is available.

Small Business Services Employment Assistance

The City’s Department of Small Business Services has a new “Find A New Job” page, which lists open employment listings from across NYC: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/sbs/careers/find-a-job.page>

Mental Health Resources

The pandemic has shown us that mental health care is more important than ever. I want to share some free, confidential resources that you can use or share with others:

- NY Project Hope: Emotional Support Helpline: 1-844-863-9314.
- NYC Well: 1-888-NYC-WELL or text "WELL" to 65173. They also offer free access to digital mental health apps and a [database](#) of behavioral health and supporting services (substance use, housing, legal, social and community services) within the five boroughs.
- The Trevor Project is based in our district and operates a national 24-hour toll-free confidential suicide hotline for LGBTQ youth. Call 1-866-488-7386 or text "START" to 678678.
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 or text "LOVEIS" to 22522.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, QUESTIONS, OR CONCERNS, YOU CAN ALWAYS CONTACT ME
OR SAM VASQUEZ AT**

212-633-8052 OR VIA E-MAIL AT SVASQUEZ@NYSENATE.GOV

**YOU CAN EMAIL ME AT HOYLMAN@NYSENATE.GOV OR VISIT MY WEBSITE AT HOYLMAN.NYSENATE.GOV TO FIND COPIES
OF MY LETTERS, TESTIMONIES, AND PRESS RELEASES.**