

New York State Senator **BRAD HOYLMAN**



322 EIGHTH AVENUE, SUITE 1700, NEW YORK, NY 10001

PHONE: 212-633-8052 | FAX: 212-633-8096

 BRADHOYLMAN | HOYLMAN.NYSENATE.GOV | HOYLMAN@NYSENATE.GOV

REPORT TO COMMUNITY BOARD 6

November 9, 2022

Fighting for Federal Mental Health Dollars

New York's growing mental health crisis demands additional support from the federal government. During this year's budget hearings, [I received a commitment from the NYS Medicaid director](#) that the State would consider applying for the Section 1115 Medicaid waiver, which would unlock federal dollars for patients in residential facilities and related services. In addition, the State Senate unanimously passed my [bill](#) (S.8422) this year requiring the NYSDOH to apply for the waiver. I'm pleased that New York State recently announced it will apply for the waiver. The waiver application is a major step towards addressing our mental health crisis by seeking federal support for New Yorkers suffering from mental illness that will help make our streets and subways safer. If you're interested in submitting written [testimony](#) on this issue, email 1115waivers@health.ny.gov before November 4.

Fighting for the Tenants at 336 West 17th Street

I joined the Tenants' Association at 336 West 17th Street to call on their landlord, Besen Partners, to immediately move forward on the promised repairs in their building. Tenants in this building have longstanding and valid grievances against the landlord, including being left without cooking gas *for over three years*. The landlord has continued to drag their feet on their commitment to renovate tenants'



apartments and has been accused of keeping rent-stabilized apartments vacant. It is estimated that nearly [90,000 units of rent-stabilized housing across the city is unoccupied](#) due to actions by landlords. This “warehousing” during our current housing crisis is unconscionable and I support legislation by Assemblymember Rosenthal to limit this practice under state law. In addition, I sent [a letter](#) along with my colleagues in government calling on the landlord to make good on promised repairs.

Continuing to Advocate on Penn Station Proposals

Following the recommendations of the Community Advisory Council Working Group, Empire State Development (ESD) has formed a Public Realm Task Force to consult and advise ESD on the public realm improvements in the Penn Station Project Area and vicinity. The Task Force will look at Pedestrian Safety and Experience, Wayfinding and Legibility, Accessibility and Climate Responsiveness. Please reach out to me at hoylman@nysenate.gov to share your concerns (many of which I already share).

Row Hotel NYC Hosting Families Seeking Asylum

On October 17th, I toured one of the newest shelter sites opening to house the thousands of asylum seekers being callously shipped up to New York City from Texas and Florida in a political stunt. The hotel is the most recent Humanitarian Emergency Relief Center (HERC) being opened by the city as we adjust to the over 21,000 recent arrivals in New York. I spoke with Dr. Ted Long of Health and Hospitals who leads the City’s operations at this shelter. I was glad to see New York continuing its long tradition of welcoming



newcomers with open arms, especially these families with small children who have trekked the hemisphere for a better life. We are doing everything possible to assist the migrants, while working to mitigate any impact to our local community.

Legal Challenges to New York’s Concealed Carry Law

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit [ruled](#) that New York’s law in response to the *Bruen* Supreme Court Decision decision striking down the State’s concealed carry statute remains in place while Attorney General James appeals a judge’s order striking down some of the provisions. The entire statute currently remains in effect, including

the portion designating Times Square a “gun free zone,” which I personally fought for in the legislation.

Dr. Fauci Reminds You to Get Vaxxed!

I was honored to meet Dr. Anthony Fauci in late October. Dr. Fauci, as you know, has long been a champion of scientific-based policymaking and I’m proud to say I consulted with him in advance of [Albany passing my legislation eliminating non-medical exemptions for vaccines](#) amidst the measles outbreak in 2019. As [COVID-19 cases](#) in the City are rising, it’s important that you and your children get a second booster shot before the holiday season rolls around. Learn more [here](#). And while you’re at it, get a flu shot, too, especially if you have children given the rise of RSV and flu among



young kids. I am having a free flu shot event on November 16th from 1-5pm at my office: 322 8th Avenue, Suite 1700. We will be offering both the regular vaccination and the 65 and older shot. Please call my office to make an appointment or if you have any questions.

Responding to Recent Casino Proposals

In response to the availability of three new casino licenses in downstate New York, several developers have announced proposals to develop casinos in our Senate district, including Hudson Yards and Times Square. According to State law, in order for a license to be granted, a casino must receive approval from a local committee which includes people appointed by the local Councilmember, Assemblymember, State Senator, Borough President, Mayor, and Governor. Successful applicants will require four out of six of these members to support their proposal in addition to approvals under the City’s land use process. As I’ve stated in press reports, I’m extremely skeptical of the viability of these proposals.



Celebrating Our Block Associations’ Fall Events

On October 16, I joined the West 400 Block Association in Clement Clarke Moore Park to celebrate their 70th Anniversary along with colleagues Councilmember Bottcher and Assembly Democratic nominee Simone. As you may already

know, the West 400 Block Association has gained the distinction of being the oldest continually run Block Association in New York City. I was proud to present the Block Association with a proclamation celebrating their service to the community and their efforts to make the neighborhood a better place. In October, I also joined neighbors and community groups at several other events. I joined the West 44th Street Better Block Association's Annual Garage Sale, and joined their Block Association meetings several weeks later. I also joined the 500 West Block Association for their first in-person meet and greet at C24 Gallery in Chelsea and the Upper West Side Coalition of Block Associations and Community Groups at the annual UWS street fair. I'm always eager to connect with our community. *If you have a block association, nonprofit or community group meeting in mind that you think I should attend, please contact me at 212-633-8902 or hoylman@nysenate.gov to arrange. As they say, I'll consider showing up to the opening of an envelope!*

Meeting with PS 11 PTA

Last month, I joined a meeting with the PS11 PTA and school leadership along with Council Member Bottcher, Assemblymember Gottfried, District Attorney Bragg and officers from the 10th Precinct. We discussed issues of public safety and steps that each of our offices can take to improve conditions around the school, including working with the myriad of state, federal and city agencies that can assist us, including the USDA (which is investigating possible EBT fraud in the area), the SLA (which oversees liquor license renewals), the NYC Department of Buildings, the Office of Special Enforcement (which oversees compliance of adult use shops), and city human service agencies. I look forward to working with my colleagues and stakeholders to address these issues. I also want to acknowledge the PS11 parents for their tremendous efforts in organizing an ongoing and extremely successful donation drive for the new families at their school.



Hoping for a Safe Halloween!

I hope you and your family had a wonderful and safe Halloween. My 5-year old was a purple witch this year, but I won't even attempt to describe my 11-year old's costume. I had the high honor and responsibility to judge the Dog Day Halloween Costume Party at Washington Square Park. Winners included Queen Elizabeth II's funeral cortège (pictured above). A round of a-paws for all of the participants! See more photos [here](#). As a beleaguered parent who spent the last month celebrating this way over-the-top commercialized holiday, I am drafting state legislation limiting the celebration of Halloween to one day only (of course, I'm kidding - but it's still a worthwhile idea).

Honored for My Efforts in Combating Gun Violence

I'm extremely proud to have been named by New Yorkers Against Violence (NYAGV) as the recipient of the Allard K. Lowenstein Award for Public Service earlier this month, along with my UWS colleague Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal. I've worked closely with NYAGV, the leading New York-based gun violence prevention organization, and my colleagues in the State Legislature on a number of gun violence prevention issues, including banning untraceable "ghost guns," eliminating the sale of the large capacity magazines used by the white supremacist shooter in Buffalo, prohibiting the possession and sale of bump stocks that effectively convert semi-automatic weapons into machine gun style assault weapons, making Times Square a "gun free zone" by banning concealed weapons in this area and requiring microstamping for newly manufactured handguns, which will assist law enforcement in tracking shell casings left at crime scenes. As I'm sure you know, there is more work to be done next legislative session on keeping illegal guns out of our community, including further responding to potential federal court decisions attacking our new gun laws and passing my legislation to expand the use of violence interruption programs to prevent retaliatory gun violence.



Rallying for a New Contract for Nurses

On October 26, I rallied with colleagues in government and members of the New York State Nurses Association at Mount Sinai Hospital for a new contract that protects patient care by keeping nurses at the bedside with safe staffing ratios, fair



pay, good healthcare benefits, safe working conditions, and community input.

Success! Fighting for Appropriate Care for LGBT Older New Yorkers

The federal Older Americans Act is one of the most important vehicles for providing our elders with “the greatest social need” the necessary resources needed to lead dignified lives, and we must ensure New York administers the act holistically, with special attention to LGBT elders. My legislation ([S.78A](#)) ensures non-economic factors – such as physical or mental disability, language barriers, and cultural or social isolation caused by sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or HIV status – are considered by the State. I’m thrilled to report that my bill was signed into law on October 17 by Governor Hochul. Read more [here](#).

Advocating for Transportation Safety

On October 19, I moderated the [Vision Zero Cities Program’s](#) “Slow It Down: Managing Speed for Safety” panel to learn about best practices for mitigating speeding from local, national, and international experts. Every year, speeding is a contributing factor in nearly a third of all fatal crashes. My bill, Sammy’s Law ([S524A](#)), would allow New York City to lower speed limits to stop the number of New Yorkers lost to traffic fatalities from increasing.

Happening Now: Medicare Open Enrollment

The Medicare Open Enrollment period runs from October 15 – December 7, allowing people with Medicare to change their health plan or prescription drug plan. For more information or to answer your questions, click [here](#) or call HIICAP at 212-602-4180 or Community Health Advocates at 888-614-5400 for assistance.

Fighting for Access to Gender-affirming Care

On National Coming Out Day on October 11, in response to efforts to criminalize lifesaving gender-affirming care for youth in nearly half of states, I helped lead a coalition of elected officials, medical professionals, legal experts and LGBTQ+ advocates in support of our Transgender Safe Haven bill ([S.8842/A.10138](#)). This legislation ensures that kids will not be separated from their parents for aiding in their access to gender-affirming care; prohibits NY law enforcement from cooperating with other states' investigations regarding legal gender-affirming



care; protects the health information of people who come to New York to receive gender-affirming care; and protects physicians who provide gender-affirming care in New York. With the passage of this bill, New York can remain the bright beacon it is for civil rights and liberties across the nation and the world. Read more [here](#) and see photos [here](#).



Celebrating State Support for the Arts

On October 8, I attended the opening of Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall, which was completed two years ahead of schedule with the support of the New York State Legislature. At the event, Governor Hochul announced \$150 million in new capital support for arts organizations across the state. To apply, go to the [NYS Council on the Arts' website](#) [here](#). I was also able to join Assembly member Rosenthal and Council Member Brewer at the event and congratulate Beverly Donahue on her election as the new Chair of CB7.

Supporting New State Money for Abortion Access

Earlier in October, Governor Kathy Hochul announced \$13.4 million for the second round of the Abortion Provider Support Fund to 37 providers, covering 64 clinical sites to further expand access to abortion services in New York. Especially as reproductive rights are under attack nationwide, I was proud to join her in this announcement to expand abortion access in New York State. My [legislation \(S470\)](#) with Assemblymember Deborah Glick to investigate unlicensed phony "crisis pregnancy centers" has been signed into law and I look forward to learning the results over the coming months.



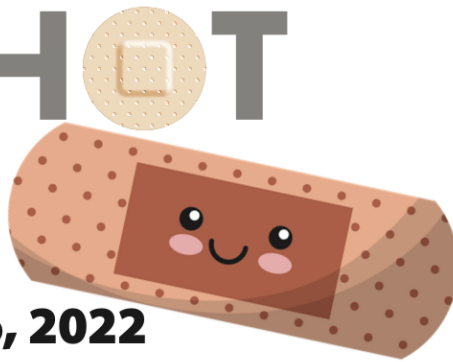
Community Resources



**NEW YORK STATE SENATOR
BRAD HOYLMAN**
PRESENTS



FREE FLU SHOT DAY



**NOVEMBER 16, 2022
1-4 PM
322 EIGHTH AVE., STE. 1700
(ON 26TH ST.)
NEW YORK, NY 10001**

**SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT
BY CALLING 212-633-8052.**

**DISTRICT OFFICE: 322 Eighth Ave., Ste. 1700, New York, NY 10001
Phone: (212) 633-8052 • E-MAIL: hoylman@nysenate.gov • WEBSITE: hoylman.nysenate.gov**

Wednesday, November 16: Free Flu Shot Day at My Office

Stay safe this holiday season by getting your flu shot. Stop by my office on Wednesday, November 16 to get a free shot. Call us to make an appointment at 212.633.8052. See you then!



Rent Freeze Benefit Assistance Sessions

New York City Department of Finance Business Centers, November 2022



- Do you live in a rent-stabilized, rent-controlled, or single-room occupancy (SRO) with a total combined income not exceeding \$50,000 annually?
- Are you 62 or older or disabled?
- Do you pay more than one-third of your income on rent?

If you answered “yes” to these questions, you may be eligible for the Rent Freeze Program.

Already in the Rent Freeze program?

- Learn why you must renew your benefit
- Learn how to renew your benefit

N O V E M B E R		
Location	Days	Time
DOF Queens Business Center 144-06 94th Avenue Jamaica, NY 11435	Mondays	2 p.m. – 5 p.m.
DOF Manhattan Business Center 66 John Street New York, NY 10038	Tuesdays	1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
DOF Brooklyn Business Center 210 Joralemon Street Brooklyn, NY 11201	Wednesdays	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
DOF Bronx Business Center 3030 Third Avenue, 2nd Floor Bronx, NY 10455	Thursdays	2 p.m. – 5 p.m.
DOF Staten Island Business Center 350 St Marks Place #301 Staten Island, NY 10301	Tuesdays	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Apply for NYC’s Rent Freeze Program

Every New Yorker deserves a roof over their head, especially our most vulnerable. This winter, NYC’s Rent Freeze Program is expanding their outreach to eligible seniors and New Yorkers with disabilities. To learn about the SCRIE and DRIE programs and how to protect from rent increases, head to your local DOF Business Center or make an online appointment [here](#).

**REGISTER NOW
FOR FALL 2022 CTE CLASSES
WITH SCHOOL 4 ADULT ED**

ENROLLMENT HUB
269 W 35th St. New York, NY 10018 7th Floor
(212) 868-1650

**CLASSES HELD AT SCHOOL OF
COOPERATIVE TECHNICAL
EDUCATION LOCATED AT:**
321 E 96TH STREET
NEW YORK N.Y. 10029

**REGISTER
TODAY!**

WELDING

GRAPHIC DESIGN

**COMP TIA A+
CERTIFICATION**

**ELECTRICAL
INSTALLATION**

**BASIC EDUCATION
AND ESL**

MICROSOFT OFFICE

SCAN TO PRE-REGISTER

TUTION FREE

HTTPS://BIT.LY/COOPTech23

Register Now: Adult Education Classes

School of Cooperative Technical Education is hosting adult education classes on graphic design, welding, ESL, Microsoft Office, electrical installation, among others. Sign up for their fall session [here](https://bit.ly/cooptech23).



November 17: City and State's Transportation Summit

On November 17, join me at City and State's Transportation Summit, where I'll be discussing building a safer and more secure future. Find out more and register [here](#).

Seeking donations of new or gently used coats and unopened packages of diapers for families in shelter in Community Board 4

Coat & Diaper Drive

Saturday, November 19, 2022
1pm-5pm

Please bring donations to:
Metro Baptist Church
410 West 40th Street (9th-10th Avenue)

Hosted by Community Board 4 and Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries with the support of the Community Partners listed below.









TISHMAN SPEYER



CHelsea MARKET



HUDSON YARDS
NEW YORK

Questions? Email jbodine@cb.nyc.gov

November 20: Coat and Diaper Drive at the Metro Baptist Church

On Saturday, November 20, join Community Board 4 and Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries from 1 - 5pm in donating clothes and diapers at 410 West 40th Street.