

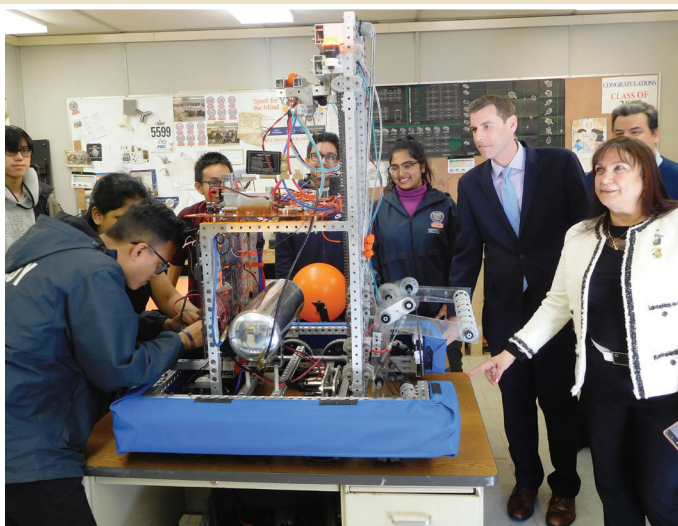
Around the Community



A record-breaking 138 donors participated in Assemblyman Braunstein's 7th Annual Summer Blood Drive at the Bay Terrace Shopping Center, which was held in conjunction with the New York Blood Center.



Congratulations to the winners of Assemblyman Braunstein's Annual Mother's Day Essay Contest. Assemblyman Braunstein is pictured (L-R) with Marilena Korahais of PS 209, Isabella Andrea Cortes of PS 107, Isabella Delvey of PS 32, and Allison Kim of PS 159.



Assemblyman Braunstein visited the Benjamin N. Cardozo High School Robotics Lab.



Assemblyman Braunstein marched in the Celebrate Israel Parade in Manhattan, the world's largest public event celebrating Israel's 71st anniversary.

Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein

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Governor Signs Into Law Assemblyman Braunstein's Legislation Criminalizing Revenge Porn

On July 23, 2019, Governor Cuomo signed into law legislation authored by Assemblyman Braunstein criminalizing “revenge porn,” or the non-consensual sharing or publication of an intimate image taken with an expectation of privacy. This new law subjects perpetrators to criminal penalties of up to a year in jail, plus civil damages, and empowers victims to seek a court order to have these images removed from the internet.



Assemblyman Braunstein said, “This new law will make it a Class A misdemeanor to disseminate revenge porn, providing prosecutors with the tools necessary to punish those who engage in this type of reprehensible behavior. Additionally, New York will become the first state in the nation to allow victims to seek a court ordered injunction to require websites to remove the offending images.”

“This law puts sexual privacy where it belongs – in the hands of New Yorkers,” said Carrie Goldberg, a victims’ rights attorney. We are grateful for the tenacity of Assemblyman Braunstein, the original architect of this law and ongoing champion. Finally, victims of the most intimate kind of violation can seek criminal redress, a restraining order, and justice from our civil courts.”



Assemblyman Braunstein co-sponsored a Resolution commemorating the centennial of the Korean Independence Movement and the heroic actions of Yu Gwan-sun.

Assemblyman Braunstein announces passage of legislation to reduce gun violence

This past Session, Assemblyman Braunstein helped pass legislation to prevent and reduce gun violence. The legislative package, signed into law by Governor Cuomo, includes the “red flag” bill, which allows a judge to issue an extreme risk protection order to prevent individuals determined to be a danger to themselves or others from possessing or purchasing firearms. Other measures passed include a ban on bump stocks, and the establishment of a longer waiting period before delivery of a purchased firearm to a person who has not cleared a background check.

“Despite mass shooting after mass shooting, the federal government still refuses to pass commonsense legislation to protect Americans from gun violence,” said Assemblyman Braunstein. “All too frequently, disturbed individuals use guns to take innocent lives. We took real action to combat this growing problem by passing the red flag bill, which will help make sure that people who exhibit clear warning signs do not have access to guns. Far too many lives have already been lost to gun violence and this law is a vital step toward protecting New Yorkers from harm.”

Governor Signs Assemblyman Braunstein and Senator Stavisky's Co-op Tax Abatement Bill

The J-51 tax abatement program provides property tax relief for many co-ops and condos. It is often used for renovations such as roof repair, window replacement and electrical improvements. It expired on June 30, 2019, but Assemblyman Braunstein and Senator Toby Ann Stavisky sponsored legislation to not only extend the program, but also to increase the number of co-op and condos that are eligible. Governor Cuomo signed it into law on July 3, 2019.

“Over time, as assessments continue to rise, more and more co-op units have fallen out of the J-51 program,” said Assemblyman Braunstein. “This legislation helps middle-class families continue to afford the cost of capital improvements.”



Assemblyman Braunstein attended the Key Luck Club's 4th of July Celebration at Selfhelp Clearview Senior Center.

Assemblyman Braunstein votes to protect our environment now and for future generations

The Assembly passed historic environmental protection legislation this Session, including the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CCPA), which was signed into law by Governor Cuomo on July 18, 2019. The CCPA is an aggressive plan which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85% by 2050, require that 70% of electricity be produced by renewable energy systems by 2030, and produce 100% of the state's electricity without emissions by 2040. Additionally, the budget included \$300 million for the Environmental Protection Fund to preserve our natural resources; \$23 million for clean energy tax credits; and increased the state's investment in clean water infrastructure to \$3 billion to address

emerging contaminants, replace lead drinking water service lines and repair aging water mains and sewer lines.

“Addressing climate change and protecting our environment must be a priority of our legislative agenda,” said Assemblyman Braunstein. “We owe it to our children and future generations to tackle the consequences of decades of irresponsible environmental practices. They are relying on us to enact change now so they can inherit a planet not choked by pollution and harmful chemicals. These new laws recognize the urgent need for action to put New York State on a path that will protect our health and the health of the planet.”

New Early Voting Sites Coming to Northeastern Queens

This past January, the Legislature passed a host of voting reforms such as early voting. At the end of April, the NYC Board of Elections (BOE) released a map of its 38 proposed early voting sites, which did not include a single site in Northeast Queens. After pressure from local lawmakers, including Assemblyman Braunstein, the BOE added Korean Community Services (KCS) in Bayside and the Cross Island YMCA in Bellerose as early polling sites. “I am proud to have supported historic changes to our election laws earlier this year to make it as easy as possible for New Yorkers to exercise their constitutional right to vote,” said Assemblyman Braunstein.

Assemblyman Braunstein Announces LIRR Monthly Pass Discount

As part of the 2019 budget, Assemblyman Braunstein was able to negotiate a 20% reduction for a Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) monthly pass for commuters in Northeast Queens starting in the Spring of 2020. Additionally, the budget includes \$3 million in funding for increased express bus service and \$6 million for first mile – last mile connections.

“A significant number of Northeast Queens LIRR commuters pay over \$200 dollars for their monthly pass to travel to Manhattan. I am proud to have worked to secure a 20% reduction for these commuters, which will result in a savings of over \$500 a year,” said Assemblyman Braunstein.

Assemblyman Braunstein Provides Benefits Assistance for Seniors

Assemblyman Braunstein, in partnership with Services Now for Adult Persons, Inc., is offering benefits and entitlements counseling to persons 60 years of age and older, including help with EPIC, Food

Stamps, HEAP, Medicaid, Medicare Part D, SCHE, and SCRIE. Please call Assemblyman Braunstein's office at 718-357-3588 if you would like to schedule an appointment with a case worker.



Assemblyman Braunstein, along with students from Benjamin N. Cardozo High School, distributed donations from our community's 23rd Annual Valentines for Vets Gift Drive to the St. Albans VA Community Living Center.

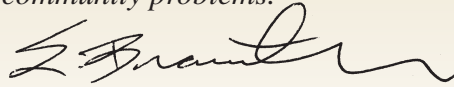


Assemblyman Braunstein met with Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church Girl Scout Troop 4573.

Dear Neighbor:

This newsletter highlights the actions I have been taking in our district and in Albany on behalf of our community. If you would like to sign up for my email list to receive more frequent updates, please email me at braunsteine@nyassembly.gov.

As always, my office is available to assist you. If you are having trouble with state or local government issues, please do not hesitate to contact us. My staff and I are always here to help you obtain benefits, provide information on government programs, and develop legislative solutions to community problems.



*Edward C. Braunstein
Member of Assembly, 26th District*

New York State Assembly • Albany, New York 12248

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Assemblyman
**Edward C.
Braunstein**
Reports to the People

FALL 2019



Assemblyman Braunstein attended the 2nd Annual Bayside Saint Patrick's Day Parade.



Assemblyman Braunstein distributed toys from his office's 8th Annual Holiday Gift Drive to patients at St. Mary's Hospital for Children.