



ASSEMBLYMEMBER
Rodneyse Bichotte

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Mid-Year Review 2017

Legislation



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Acting District Attorney Eric Gonzalez.

Raise the Age

New York State finally ends a decades-long injustice by raising the age of criminal responsibility, ensuring that 16- and 17-year-olds who commit non-violent crimes are processed as juveniles in the State's justice system. New York was previously one of only two states in the nation that automatically processed all 16- and 17-year-olds as adults.

As part of the budget agreement, young people who commit non-violent offenses will now receive the intervention and evidence-based treatment they need and will no longer be permitted to be housed in adult facilities or jails.

Excelsior Scholarship

The Excelsior Scholarship, applicable to attendees at in state public colleges taking at least 12 credit hours per semester and 30 hours per year. Scholarship covers cost of tuition, less education grants such as TAP, PELL grants and others. Starting with 2017-18 academic year, initial eligibility is for students/households with **Average Gross Income (AGI)** under \$100,000, rising to \$125,000 in three years. For more information visit: <http://on.ny.gov/2o6ZOzL>

Assemblymember Bichotte put forth an analysis, which proposed starting with free community college tuition, with a scale up plan to eventually include four-year colleges.

New York City

Mayor Bill de Blasio continued his effort to expand education for all children and announced his initiative to expand universal pre-k in order to bring free, full-day, high quality day care to three-year-olds.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Mayor Bill de Blasio at Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

The Mayor also announced his plan to close Rikers Island. The goal of the plan is to create a safer, smaller, and fairer criminal justice system. The new system will focus on helping those incarcerated find a better path and maintain their connection to supportive services in the community, while ensuring a safer space for officers.

Taking Care of the Homeless

This year the Legislature approved allocations for the \$2.5 billion affordable and supportive housing funds appropriated in this year and last year's budget agreements. Of the \$2.5 billion, \$1 billion was allocated for the construction of supportive housing for the homeless. To find out more visit: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/Press/20170407e/>

Highlights from FY 2018 budget

Education

- \$817 million for prekindergarten programs
- \$700 million Foundation Aid increase so every child receives a quality education
- \$150 million to convert schools into community schools

Housing

- \$1 billion to construct supportive housing for the homeless
- \$125 million for senior housing
- \$100 million for 100% affordable housing
- \$4.5 million for the Tenant Protection Unit to investigate landlord fraud and neglect

Transportation

- \$65 million - Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Capital Plan to help accommodate more passengers and improve efficiency

Free Legal Services for Low Income New Yorkers

- \$1.06 million in support for the New York State Defenders Association;
- \$600,000 in support for immigrant legal services; and
- \$500,000 for alternatives to incarceration (ATI) programming.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Speaker Carl Heastie and members of the New York State Assembly and community advocates at a press conference for Criminal Justice Reform.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte stands with tenant advocacy groups in Albany to continue fighting for affordable housing.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte during opening day at the New York State Legislature with Assemblymember Ortiz and Assemblymember Dilan supporting newly elected Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou -- the first Chinese American to be voted into the state legislature.

Voting Rights – Women’s Suffrage



Assembly Member Rodneyse Bichotte pays homage to the Women’s Suffrage Movement and speaks in support of voting rights legislation spearheaded by Assemblymember Latrice Walker during a press conference in Albany along members of the Assembly and the Senate.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte speaks at a forum about Brooklyn residents living with developmental disabilities demanding fair funding for direct care workers.

State of the District

This year’s State of the District was held at Brooklyn College with 200 people in attendance. The Assemblymember provided an update of her Bichotte Plan and encouraged people to organize and mobilize under the current administration. In addition to providing information about the state of the district, her speech encouraged residents to not lose sight of the American Dream. The Master and Mistress of Ceremonies were Josue Pierre, Brooklyn Borough Director for NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, and Audrey Walen, respectively.



Brooklyn Borough Director for NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, Josue Pierre, and community leader Audrey Walen at this year’s State of the District Address.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte addresses constituents of the 42nd Assembly District at her Annual State of the District Address at Brooklyn College.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte (center) with Council Member Jumaane D. Williams (right) and Council Member Daniel Dromm (left) join the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators to cut the ribbon for its newly opened Professional Development Center at the John Snow Pre-K Center; the only one in Brooklyn.



Assemblymember Bichotte with participants of the Girls Program at JCC Marine Park.

Eve

Haitian Unity Day and Haitian Flag Day

Haitian Unity Day is a day to recognize Haiti and Haitian-Americans throughout New York State. This day commemorated Haiti’s legacy of liberty and justice throughout the world and the significant contributions of Haitians in New York State.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte, during Haitian Unity Day, along with colleagues from both the Assembly and the Senate, honor J. Philippe Abraham, the first Haitian-American to serve as a statewide officer for New York State United Teachers (NYSUT).

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte hosted Haitian Flag Day with Councilmember Jumaane D. Williams.



Assemblymembers Rodneyse Bichotte, Kimberly Jean-Pierre, Michaëlle Solages, and Clyde Vanel pay tribute to the over 200,000 victims of the tragic earthquakes in Haiti in 2010.

IN THE DISTRICT



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with President of the American Council of Minority Women, Bazah Roohi, at their Eid Chand Raat celebration.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte (center) along with Council Member Jumaane D. Williams (left) and New York State Senator Kevin Parker (right) at the Flatbush YMCA where they hosted an immigration rights forum.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte joins host, Professor Mojúbàolú Olufúnké Okome of Brooklyn College, to speak at the unfortunate commemoration of the 1,000 days that the Chibok girls of Nigeria have remained in captivity.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Pastor James Thornton (left), First Lady Angela Thornton (middle), and Rodney Pepe-Souvenir (right) at Salem Missionary Baptist Church.

Caribbean Heritage



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Brooklyn Borough Director for NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, Josue Pierre, and President of WIADCA, Bill Howard at WIADCA's 50 year anniversary.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte shares her story with attendees at this year's Caribbean Heritage Month event hosted by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA).



Clergy Luncheon

Clergy leaders from many different faiths came together to gain understanding and guidance in regard to the resources available to them and their congregants.



Senior Luncheon

Nearly 300 seniors attended this year's Senior Luncheon held at St. Mark's United Methodist Church.

Events



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with the #EverySchool Coalition in their push for Speed Safety Cameras being set up in all school zones in New York City.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with the students of SUNY's Educational Opportunity Program.

Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE)



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte is honored at the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Black History Month Celebration by President, Andrew Hoan and its MWBE Committee.

Personal Net Worth Cap Elimination

The Personal Net Worth Cap legislation, which passed both the Assembly and the Senate, would eliminate the requirement for minority- and women-owned business enterprise owners to have a personal net worth of less than \$3.5 million dollars in order to obtain certification as a minority- and women-owned business enterprise.

MWBE business owners across the State have been affected by this cap threatening their participation and limiting their growth as a result. There is an effort underway to encourage the Governor to sign this bill into law.

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte shares information about MWBE legislation and resources at a Brooklyn Hispanic Chamber of Commerce event.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke and Senior Advisor for MWBE Programs, Jonnel Doris, prepare for the MWBE Roundtable during the New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators Annual Conference Weekend.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with First Lady Chirlane McCray during the We Connect NYC Women's History Month event sponsored by the NYC Department of Small Business Services.

We're Moving!

Our office is temporarily housed at 250 Broadway in Manhattan. If you need to reach us, you can call 718-940-0428. We will be moving to 1312 Flatbush Avenue soon and will be in touch about our move in date.

New York State Assembly • Albany, New York 12248



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Supporting the Rights of Unions and All Workers



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte enjoys corn on the cob with President Shaun D. Francois, and members of DC37, Local 372.



Assemblymembers Bichotte and Richardson with Secretary Treasurer, Tony Barone of CWA Local 1109.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte joins 32BJ SEIU along with her Assembly colleagues on the Million Dollar staircase in the Capitol to support airport workers.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with Marvin Holland, and President, John Samuelson, of TWU Local 100.



Assemblymembers Bichotte and Richardson with members of New York State Nurses Association.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte with President, Ernest Logan (left), and Political Director, Herman Merritt (right) of the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators.