



the office of Assemblymember

**RODNEYSE**

**BICHOTTE HERMELYN**

representing the 42nd Assembly District



# MID YEAR REVIEW 2025

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## Highlighting Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn’s Latest Accomplishments for You and Our Community of Assembly District 42


Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn has been very busy making immense progress—and as we reach the midpoint of 2025, she is excited to share the goals accomplished and challenges overcome for the 42nd District, and for all of New York City and State.

Just as importantly, Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn and our team are excited to provide a recap of our continual community engagement, including keynote events, outreach in Albany, and much more!

Further, with the 2025 Legislative Session completed in June 2025 and a historic FY 2025-2026 State Budget Passed, there is plenty of positive progress to report.

As you will see, there’s a lot to be eager about for the rest of 2025 and beyond for our community!

Sincerely,



Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn

## 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, working closely with her colleagues in the NYS Legislature, was incredibly active in introducing and advancing several significant bills in the NYS Assembly during the 2025 Legislative Session which concluded in June, many of which gained sponsorship in the Senate, were passed in both houses, and are now awaiting Governor Hochul’s potential signature to be passed into law.

Below is a highlight of legislation sponsored by Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn, (as of July 2025), which are being reviewed by the Governor to become State Laws, and which Bichotte Hermelyn will continue advocating for as State Assembly Majority Whip:



### Highlights of Passed Bills Sponsored by Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn

**HOUSING**  
**NYC Housing Authority Succession Rights (A8412):**  
 It would mandate the New York City Housing Authority to establish clear and fair procedures for having succession rights upon a tenant’s passing.

**EDUCATION**  
**Scholarship for Academic Excellence (A7053):**  
 to require that scholarships for academic excellence that are declined by a student prior to the end of their high school program are granted to the next most qualified student.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
**Bill A4913 –** would allow taxpayers to contribute to the tuition assistance program on personal income tax forms.

**HEALTHCARE**  
**Eli Parker Levitt Law (A3280):**  
 Requires insurance policies to provide coverage for transvaginal ultrasounds during pregnancy.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**Water Safety Information / Awareness (A3515):**  
 This bill would require school districts to provide vital information on water safety to parents and students upon enrollment to prevent water accidents or drownings.

**MWBE**  
**MWBE Mentorship Bill (A7235):** create and expand construction mentorship programs to further support small businesses and MWBEs by providing them the necessary skills and resources to successfully bid on state contracts.

**Annual Report of Minority and Women’s Business Development (A7222):** Requires the reporting of the number of new certifications and recertifications - including the basis for any denials - to be included in the Annual Report from the Division of Minority and Women’s Business Development.

**BOOSTING THE ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**Employment Disparate Bill (A08699):** would ensure that discriminatory practices that result in disparate impacts - regardless of intent - are recognized as

unlawful under New York’s Executive Law, while providing a clear legal standard for evaluating justification defenses.

**HELPING LOCAL BUSINESSES**  
**Bleu Nuk Bk SLA Bill (A8639):** to allow Bleu Nuk Bk to obtain a full liquor license.

**Lago Kache Restaurant & Lounge SLA Bill (A8418):** to allow for Lago Kache Restaurant and Lounge to obtain a full liquor license.

**PROTECTING OLDER ADULTS**  
**Elder Justice Task Force (A7277):** creates an interagency elder justice task force to enhance collaboration between state agencies in protecting older adults from abuse and mistreatment.

**SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND MONEY**  
**NY State Energy Brooklyn College (A7762):** requires the New York State energy research and development authority to conduct a study on Brooklyn College constructing a micro-grid to study the efficiency and energy saving costs if such micro-grid was constructed on campus.

# NEW YORK STATE FY 2025-2026 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The New York State Senate and Assembly approved a historic **\$254 billion State Budget** for **Fiscal Year 2025-26** after completing negotiations with **Gov. Kathy Hochul**.

“**New York’s Budget** meets the moment for our City and State’s most pressing issues; building a safer, more affordable, and equitable New York—all without raising taxes,” said **Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn**.

## Key Budget Highlights Include:

**Improving Education:** record investments include a guaranteed increase of at least 2% in Foundational Aid over the past year for every school district across the state, \$340 million to provide free school breakfast and lunch for all New York students, and much more.

**Putting New York Families First:** delivers inflation relief and tax cuts to middle-class families.

**Small Business Support:** Eliminates \$8 billion in pandemic unemployment insurance debt and increases unemployment wages, giving small businesses and workers much-needed relief.

**Housing:** Supports “the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity Program” in New York City, provides \$500 million for new construction and preservation of affordable housing, and much more.

**Public Safety:** Prioritizes health-focused responses to mental crises with \$8 million for Daniel’s Law programs, expands involuntary commitment laws and makes record investments in gun violence prevention programs.

**“Axe the Tax for the Working Class”:** Eliminate and cut City Taxes for more than 582,000 New Yorkers and Dependents.

## IN THE COMMUNITY



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn joined **Brooklyn Emerge**, along with elected officials and community/faith leaders for a **Ramadan Iftar**.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn had a lengthy and productive one-on-one discussion with **Rev. Al Sharpton** to discuss and address community issues.

*Celebrating the reopening of **Brooklyn’s Clarendon Public Library**, following improvement renovations that Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn assisted in expediting.*



(Pictured left to right: Chief of Staff Tyesha Allen, Linda E. Johnson, President and CEO of the Brooklyn Public Library, Council Member Farah Louis, Wes Jackson, President of BRIC, along with students and staff of Clarendon Library.)



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn and her team honored the renowned **Haitian sociologist Daniel Supplice**, alongside **Little Haiti BK**, for his dedication to the Haitian community and social justice. Pictured is **Daniel Supplice** with **Director of Operations, Emily Joachim**.



**Celebrating Lunar New Year**, welcoming the **Year of the Snake**: Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn and her family with elected officials and community advocates.

## IN ALBANY



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn spoke on her vote supporting bill **A01014**, to authorize local **Boards of Elections** to establish secure ballot drop boxes.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn met with **Melana and David Bellafonte**, actors and Co-Founders of the non-profit **Bellafonte Foundation**, to discuss advancing sustainable farming goals.



(Pictured is Assemblymember **Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn** with **DC 37 union members** and **State Senator James Sanders, Jr.**)

Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn joined legislative colleagues, standing in solidarity with **District Council 37 union members** (NYC’s largest municipal employee union), and met with union leaders to advocate for worker’s rights amidst federal layoffs.



Assemblymember **Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn** joined the **New York State Association of Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislators’ (NYSABPRL) Black Delegation** during **Black History Month** to unveil their legislative agenda.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn called for increased resources for libraries, to empower all New Yorkers during **Library Advocacy Day**, hosted by **NYS Senator Siela A. Bynoe**, and joined by advocates across NYS.



Meeting with leaders of **Agudath Israel of America** to discuss pressing issues facing our Jewish communities.

# MWBE HIGHLIGHTS

Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Success



**Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn** was honored during the mayor's Second Annual MWBE Awards Ceremony, and received this prestigious recognition during Black History Month for her role in achieving consecutive record-breaking years of NYC MWBE success.



**Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn** was interviewed by **Shantel Destra (PBS/NY NOW)** on her MWBE accomplishments, and advocacy to increase support for MWBEs for the 2025-26 FY State Budget. (The interview can be viewed online here: <https://www.pbs.org/video/ny-lawmakers-consider-increased-support-for-minority-owned-businesses-mcilvh/>)

## MWBE WORKSHOP

**A BLUEPRINT FOR MWBE SUCCESS: FUTURE-PROOFING STRATEGIES FOR GROWTH AND RESILIENCE**

**2025 NYSABPRHL 54TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE**

**WORKSHOP CHAIRS**

James Sanders, Jr.  
State Senator

Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn  
Assembly Member

**CO-MODERATORS**

Dr. Teri Coaxum  
Founder and CEO  
Coaxum Connects  
Host of The Coaxum Report

Francilla Wilkins Rahim  
CEO of R. F. Wilkins  
Consultants, Inc.  
and ATTO Labs

**PANELIST**

Michael J. Garner  
NYC Citywide Mayor's  
Office of MWBEs  
Chief Business Diversity Officer

Lourdes Zapata  
MTA Chief Diversity &  
Inclusion Officer

Dylishal Gross  
NYC Small Business  
Services Commissioner

Carrie V. Torres  
SAGBI Director of the  
Opportunity Program Group

William Choi  
Director of Supplier  
Diversity of the New York  
Power Authority (NYP&A)

Jason M. Clark  
Executive Vice President  
NYS Division of Minority &  
Women's Business Development

Tracey Mitchell  
Senior Director, Diversity and Civil  
Rights, Economic Development  
Commission

Gregory Glasgow  
SAGBI Director of the  
Operations Business  
Development Division

During the powerful and impactful New York State Association of Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislators (NYSABPRL) Legislative Caucus Weekend, Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn co-hosted several workshops to remove barriers and increase the equitable success of MWBEs.

## CELEBRATORY MILESTONES AND MEANINGFUL RECOGNITIONS



**Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn** joined the community in mourning the loss of civil rights icon and former NAACP NYS Conference President **Dr. Hazel N. Dukes** (pictured is **Dr. Hazel N. Dukes** with the Assemblymember and fellow sorority sisters from **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**)



**Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn** celebrating the induction of **Hon. Norma Jennings**, who was sworn in as **New York State's first openly LGBTQ+ Black elected Civil Court Judge**.



**Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn** spoke at the **Lubavitcher Rebbe Way Co-Naming and Sign Unveiling Ceremony** in Crown Heights, alongside community activist **Yaacov Behrman**.

The powerful event paid tribute to the lasting impact of **Lubavitcher Rebbe**, the seventh **Rebbe of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement**, whose global influence continues to inspire and empower.



**Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn** presenting a citation to **Hon. Inga M. O'Neale** at her swearing-in ceremony as a **NYS Supreme Court Justice**.



**Celebrating Pakistan Heritage Day: The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG)** in the **NYS Assembly Legislative Chamber**, with Assemblymembers **Jenifer Rajkumar** and **Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn**.



**Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn** honored **Stephanie D. Delia, Esq.**, a **Haitian immigration attorney and executive director of Little Haiti BK** (pictured right) during **Governor Kathy Hochul's (center) Women's History Month Awards Reception**.



**Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn** presenting a citation to **Hon. Abayomi Ajaiyeoba Whint**, during her historic induction as a **Civil Court Judge for Kings County** (as the first Nigerian immigrant to hold this role in Brooklyn).



**Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn** was honored as a **"Woman of Courage"** by the **Brooklyn Anti-Violence Coalition (BAVC)** at their **Women's History Month Ceremony**, and joined in celebrating fellow honorees while recognizing **BAVC's empowering work**.

# EMPOWERING EVENTS

Engaging and Upcoming Events



Honoring the 9th Annual Women of Distinction Education Honorees: Principal Judith Ranft Quartana (pictured right) and Principal Gina Smalley, PS 315 (left)

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn proudly hosted her Annual Prostate Cancer Screening Event, in partnership with Mount Sinai and their Robert F. Smith Mobile Prostate Cancer Screening Unit.



(Pictured left to right): Emily Joachim, Director of Operations and Tyesha Allen, Chief of Staff for Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, Carl Hantz-Pierre, Morris Heights Health Center, India Dansby, MPA, Specialist, Communications & Public Relations, Morris Heights Health Center, Amanda Dennis-James Medical Assistant Mount Sinai, Errol Webster, Program Manager, Mount Sinai.)

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn hosted her 9th Annual Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony at Brooklyn College during Women's History Month, recognizing outstanding women making a difference in AD 42 within several distinct categories.



(Pictured left to right, are the 2025 Women of Distinction Honorees: Wendy Jules, RN and Carla Nelson, RN and LE; Business and Entrepreneurship Honorees; ZamZam Murtaza, Arts and Entertainment; Gail L. Smith, Lifetime Achievement; with Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn; Dr. Carol Reneau, Housing; Melissa Dain, Environmental Activism; Dina Rabiner, Community Engagement; and Dr. Florence St. Jean, Health Honoree.)

The Annual Senior Luncheon at the East Midwood Jewish Center hosted by Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn was enjoyed by over 200 seniors, who joined us for a day filled with fun, community unity, games, prizes, and resources.



(Pictured are seniors enjoying food and games.)

Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn and her team hosted her 9th Annual State of the District Address at Brooklyn College, providing an overview of the accomplishments made during the past year, and a preview of the goals for 2025.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn and our team, pictured left to right: Faridah Odukale, Legislative Director; Tyesha Allen, Chief of Staff; Emily Joachim, Director of Operations; Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn; Sherline Herold, Director of Constituency and Support Services; Jonathan Lafleur-Pierre, District Office Assistant; and James Christopher, Communications Director.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn held her Annual Clergy Luncheon at the Bridge Multicultural and Advocacy Project, convening a diverse group of faith-based leaders from across Assembly District 42 to discuss issues facing their congregations and to discuss solutions.

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ASSEMBLYMEMBER  
**Rodneyse  
Bichotte  
Hermelyn**

Mid-Year Review 2025

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Free Community Events

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn  
In partnership with Care Access hosts a...

**SENIORS Fall LUNCHEON**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>  
11AM - 3PM  
Salem Missionary Baptist Church  
305 East 21st Street  
(Between Bedford Avenue and Atlantic Road)

SPACE IS LIMITED.  
REGISTER NOW at nyassembly.gov  
call (718) 940-0428 or scan QR code.

BINGO • RAFFLES • PRIZES  
FOOD • VENDOR RESOURCES

Join our Seniors Fall Luncheon in partnership with Care Access Tuesday, September 16 11:00am - 3:00pm at Salem Missionary Baptist Church 305 East 21st Street.

Enjoy delicious food, bingo, raffles, prizes and free community resources and Free Health Screening from Care Access.

Registration is Required  
RSVP soon-seating is limited!

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn  
invites you to attend her

**BREAST CANCER SCREENING EVENT**

In partnership with the AMERICAN-ITALIAN CANCER FOUNDATION

Wednesday, September 24, 2025  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
1312 Flatbush Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11210

Registration Required:  
https://www.nyassembly.gov/press/rodneysbichottehermelyn/2025/sep/24/breastcancer/

RSVP to SECURE your spot!  
No insurance required. No co-payments and no deductibles are waived. Uninsured patients are welcomed. Please bring your photo ID and health insurance card (if insured) Must be over the age of 40.

For questions about this free event or any other community resources contact the office of Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn (718) 940-0428 or nyassembly.gov

Your Health Matters: Free Breast Cancer Mobile Screening in partnership with the American-Italian Cancer Foundation

Wednesday, September 24  
10:00am to 4:00pm

in front Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn's District Office  
(1312 Flatbush Avenue)

Registration Required.  
RSVP now to secure your spot!  
Uninsured patients are welcomed.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE EVENTS

For more information about these free events or any state or local issue, please contact the office of Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn: 1312 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210 at (718) 940-0428 or by email: ad42@nyassembly.gov