



The office of Assemblymember
**RODNEYSE
BICHOTTE HERMELYN**
representing the 42nd Assembly District



MID YEAR REVIEW 2026

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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 continues to make immense progress for our community — and as we reach the midpoint of 2026, she is proud to share the goals achieved and the challenges overcome on behalf of the 42nd District, and for all of New York City and New York State.

Just as importantly, Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn and our team are excited to **provide a recap of our ongoing community engagement** — including major district events, legislative advocacy in Albany, and year-round constituent outreach.

With the **2026 Legislative Session concluded and the FY 2026–2027 State Budget enacted**, this year has already delivered significant wins, strengthened protections, and new investments that directly impact our neighborhoods.

As you will see, there is much to be energized about for the remainder of 2026 and the years ahead as we continue building a stronger, safer, and more equitable community.

Sincerely,

Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, working closely with her colleagues in the New York State Legislature, remained highly active in **introducing and advancing several significant bills** throughout the **2026 Legislative Session**, which concluded in June. Many of these bills secured Senate sponsorship, passed both houses, and are now awaiting Governor Hochul's signature for enactment into law.

Below is a highlight of legislation sponsored by **Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn as of July 2026** that is currently under review by the Governor and legislation she will continue championing in her role as State Assembly Majority Whip:



Highlights of Passed Bills Sponsored by Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn

EDUCATION

The Student Caregiver Bill (A3595):

Directs the Commissioner of Education to conduct a comprehensive study on the number of “caregiver children” and how caring for sick, disabled, or elderly relatives impacts their education, with the goal of securing proper resources to help them succeed.

HEALTHCARE

Doula Friendly Workspaces (A3508):

Increases the amount of information available regarding the respectful integration of doula services in birthing delivery teams and healthcare practices and facilities, and to recommend metrics for more formally designating Doula Friendly Spaces.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Safeguarding Personal Statements in Court (A3524):

This bill would protect a defendant's right to personally speak at their sentencing. It stops this right from being accidentally thrown away even if the defendant signed a standard, broad waiver of appeal.

MWBE

MWBE Public Contracts (A7125):

Requires that public contracts be divided by size into large, medium, small and micro contracts for the purpose of increasing opportunities for small businesses, including MWBEs, to participate in state contracts.

MWBE Mentorship Bill (A7121):

Allows for future minority and women-owned business enterprises to have tangible evidence of the success of the programs and allows state and municipal corporations to set further goals or enhance the requirements of respective programs there-of.

Annual Report of Minority and Women's Business Development (A9455): Requires revisions and

clarification to the reporting requirements for the Division of Minority and Women's Business Development's annual report by standardizing how MWBE utilization and expenditure data is presented, in order to improve transparency, usability, and consistency of reporting.

BOOSTING THE ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

Student Loan Bill (A7194C):

Would make it an unlawful discriminatory practice for an employer to request or to use the student loan payment credit history of an applicant for employment in determining hiring decisions.

SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT

NY State Mercury Thermostat

Collection (A11392): Amends the environmental conservation law relating to establishing the mercury thermostat collection act, to be extended through 2028.

NEW YORK STATE FY 2026-2027 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The New York State Senate and Assembly approved a **\$268.5 billion State Budget** for **Fiscal Year 2026-27** after completing negotiations with **Gov. Kathy Hochul**.

“Our schools, roads, parks, and hospitals serve the majority of our citizens, and making our tax code more progressive equips hardworking families to handle the rising economic costs of housing and healthcare,” said **Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn**. “This year’s budget delivers critical tax relief and structural support directly to the New Yorkers who need it most.”

Key Budget Highlights Include:

Improving Education: record investments include a historic \$39 billion in school aid, representing a \$1.7 billion increase over the previous year, alongside \$395 million for the Universal Free School Meals program to ensure no child goes hungry in the classroom, and much more.

Putting New York Families First: delivers critical inflation relief, including \$1 billion in utility bill relief for struggling ratepayers through the Protecting Our Wallets Energy Rebate (POWER) program.

Small Business Support: Establishes critical state grants and financial backing to help small business owners install upgraded security system technology to protect local storefronts and commercial corridors.

Housing: Secures a crucial 10-year renewal of the J-51 tax abatement to incentivize building owners to preserve and upgrade affordable housing units across New York City.

Public Safety: Invests over \$900 million in public safety initiatives, prioritizing strict crackdowns on illegal 3D-printed ghost guns, increased police presence in transit systems, and a record \$370 million for proven gun violence prevention programs.

“Safe by Design” for Youth: Enacts landmark digital safety protections establishing strict design standards for online platforms to protect minors from algorithmic harms and emerging online threats.

IN THE COMMUNITY



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

Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn discussing key community priorities and district initiatives with local leaders and neighbors at the Flatbush Development Corporation (FDC) Legislative Breakfast.



Celebrating the grand opening of the Shirley Chisholm Recreation Center. Pictured left to right: Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse, Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, NYC Parks Commissioner Tricia Shimamura, Mayor Zohran Mamdani, Councilmember Farah Louis, Public Advocate Jumaane Williams and Assemblymember Monique Chandler-Waterman.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, together with Attorney General Letitia James, hits the ground for annual Pesach distributions. (Left) Joining Chasdei Lev and the Flatbush Jewish Community Council (FJCC) leadership and volunteers. (Right) The Assemblymember also joined Jewish Community Council of Marine Park (JCCMP) Executive Director Shea Rubenstein for their distribution with MET Council.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn (bottom right) with South Midwood Pollinators Green Team (top: Kim Platt, Andi Zinn, Stephanie Blackwood, and Virginia Levie, bottom left) at Glenwood Malls clean up day.

Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn’s office joined NYC Schools Chancellor Kamar Samuels at Midwood High School during his “Conversations with the Chancellor” tour in Assembly District 42. Pictured: Tyesha Allen, Chief of Staff (far left) with NYC Schools Chancellor Kamar Samuels (second from right) and Midwood High School Principal Dr. Robert Quinlan (far right) and leadership team.



IN ALBANY



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn spoke on her bill A3595A (passed), requiring a comprehensive State study on the academic, emotional, and financial toll endured by youth caregivers.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn stood with a number of tenant housing organizations including NYC Right to Counsel Coalition, CASA, and Brooklyn’s own Flatbush Tenant Coalition to push for the passage of (A4669) - Statewide Right to Counsel; (A1621) Clean Hands Act; and (A10121) Winter Eviction Moratorium.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn joined colleagues in celebrating longtime members of the Assembly Majority who are retiring from public service this year. Amongst them was Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn votes in favor of A.8904A to designate Little Panama as a Cultural District.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn co-sponsored the First-Ever Eid Celebrations in the New York State Assembly with Assemblymember William Colton.

Pictured: Legislative Director to Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, Faridah Odukale (centered) joins Brooklyn Emerge Co-founder, Shabir Ahmad (far left); American Council of Minority Women (ACMW), Executive Director Bazah Roohi and her Executive Team; and PAYO USA President, Waqil Ahmed (far right).



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn with Rohan Marley, Jamaican businessman, former football player, and the son of reggae artist Bob Marley. (Left photo); and MC Lyte, American Rapper and Songwriter (right photo), for Black Music Month.

MWBE HIGHLIGHTS

Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Success



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn attended NYS Small Business Services contracting summit where she spoke on her advocacy for MWBEs.

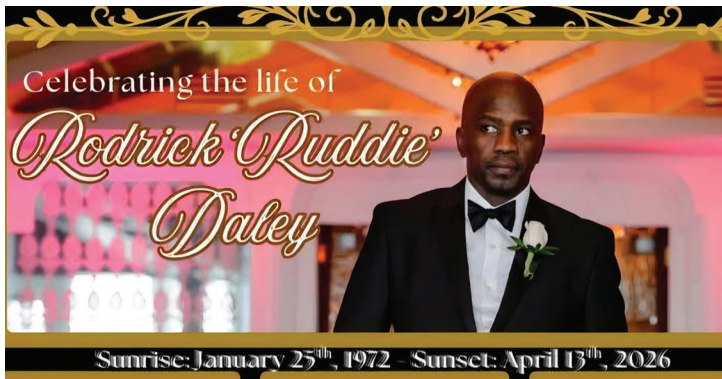


Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn and **Senator James Sanders Jr.** joined by advocates at the Million Dollar Staircase for the MWBE Advocacy Day press Conference.



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 **Chair, Rodrick "Ruddie" F. Daley**, honoring a legendary educator at the helm of Community Board 17.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn presenting a citation to **Hon. Dagmar Plaza-Gonzalez** at her swearing-in ceremony as NYC Civil Court Judge.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn celebrating the induction of **Hon. Chidi Eze**, swearing in ceremony, as New York City Civil Court Judge.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn spoke at Salem Missionary Baptist Church to join in honoring **Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. James A. Thornton** on 20 years of Pastoral Leadership.



Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn honored **Dr. Marie Lily Cerat**, Director of the Haitian Studies Institute at Brooklyn College, CUNY (center) during Governor **Kathy Hochul's** (left) Women's History Month Awards Reception.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn celebrates Pakistan Heritage Month with **The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG)** in Albany.



Celebrating Haitian Heritage Month: Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn presented a citation to Haitian national soccer captain **Duckens Nazon**, Haiti's all-time leading goal scorer and the talisman who spearheaded the country's historic return to the 2026 FIFA World Cup after 52 years.

EMPOWERING EVENTS

Engaging and Upcoming Events



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn honors and empowers 2026 graduates across Assembly District 42. Recognizing Salutatorians, Valedictorians, and High achieving community servants with Certificate of Merits.

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn hosted her 10th 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.



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn (centered) with the Women of Distinction honorees at Brooklyn College. (Left to Right) Florencia Chang-Ageda, 70th Precinct Council Secretary and Community Board 14 Safety Committee Co-Chair; Sabrina Simon, Deputy Director, Flatbush Tenant Coalition; Stamatis Chasabenis, Community School District 22 Executive Director and Representative for honoree, Superintendent Julia Bove; Arlene Lieberman, Retired Music Educator; Roisin Ford, Treasurer and Tree Planting Chair; Dittmas Park West Neighborhood Association; Nowshin Ali, Co-Owner of JALSA and Founder of People In Need, Inc.; Wendy Ann Powell, Founder, The Journey Project for Dance and Theatre Arts; and Dr. Sandra Scott, CEO, One Brooklyn Health System.

Throughout the month of June, Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn hosted a Community Listening Tour, providing an open forum for meaningful dialogue and connecting directly with neighbors and leaders to voice their concerns, offer ideas, and help shape future priorities.



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 Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn hosted her Annual Clergy Luncheon at The Bridge Multicultural and Advocacy Project, bringing together clergy leaders and faith-based organizations from across the community.

New York State Assembly • Albany, New York 12248



ASSEMBLYMEMBER
**Rodneyse
Bichotte
Hermelyn**

Mid-Year Review 2026

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Free Community Events



Tuesday, September 15
11:00am - 3:00pm at
Salem Missionary Baptist Church
305 East 21st Street

Enjoy delicious food, bingo, raffles, prizes and free community resources

Registration Required.
First Come. First Serve. Seating is limited!

**Your Health
Matters:**

Free Prostate Cancer
Mobile Screening in
partnership with the
Mount Sinai Mobile Unit

Friday, September 25 • 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.



Thursday, September 10
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