



Assemblymember
Robert C. Carroll
 Assembly District 44

March 1, 2023

Greetings –

I am hosting an in-person Town Hall meeting on Thursday, March 23rd at PS 9 in Prospect Heights, and all constituents are welcome to attend. We will be discussing State and local issues and I look forward to hearing your concerns and questions. We will have a number of agencies on hand to provide service. Confirmed agencies so far include the MTA, City Department of Finance and the Department of Sanitation. We’re working to confirm others and will circulate an updated flyer in the coming weeks. Please see the flyer below and RSVP at Carrollr@nyassembly.gov if you’d like to attend.



**ROBERT
 CARROLL**
 ASSEMBLYMEMBER // 44TH DISTRICT



**Town Hall
 in Prospect Heights**

**Thursday, March 23rd | Doors Open 6:30 pm
 Town Hall: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
 P.S. 9 at 80 Underhill Avenue
 (bet. Bergen & St. Marks)**

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

STATE BUDGET

LOCAL ISSUES & CONCERNS IN PROSPECT HEIGHTS

REPORT FROM ALBANY

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS AND GET ANSWERS FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER ROBERT CARROLL

RSVP TO CARROLLR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV OR CALL 718-788-7221

In Albany this week my Dyslexia Task Force bill ([A.133](#)) passed the Assembly Education Committee. This is the same legislation that was passed by the legislature last year but was subjected to a misguided veto by the Governor in November. As those of you who have been following this issue are aware, it requires the New York State Education Department Commissioner to establish a task force to examine appropriate and effective evidence-based

screening methods, reading interventions and other educational supports for dyslexia and related disorders for students in kindergarten through grade five.

This bill is part of a package of three bills I sponsor including two new bills: [A.2897](#) - The Right to Read Act, and [A.2898](#) - The Dyslexia Diagnosis Access Act.

The Right to Read Act would require the State Education Department to provide guidance to school districts to establish literacy programming based on the science of reading as the standard throughout the state and require teachers in the elementary grades to complete fifty hours of training in this programming.

The Dyslexia Diagnosis Access Act would mandate that private health insurance policies pay for neuropsychological exams for the purpose of diagnosing dyslexia. Such exams currently may cost in excess of six thousand dollars and are typically not paid for by health insurance, making them unaffordable to many families.

Studies have shown that as many as one in five children have dyslexia or another phonemic awareness issue, but there is still no coherent approach in New York to addressing their needs or literacy education more generally. Sadly only thirty-five percent of 4th graders are reading at grade level. I truly believe that we can and must do far better to make sure all our children become fluent readers. We know what works and now it is a matter of determination on the part of policy makers working in collaboration with school systems, educators, and families.

New Legislation to Curtail Non-Essential Helicopter Nuisance flights

This week I announced the introduction of [A.3333](#) a bill taxing non-essential helicopter flights in New York City. This legislation would impose both a carbon emissions tax and a noise tax on these flights, which are harming both our health and the environment. Revenues from the taxes will go to the State's Environmental Protection Fund, which supports projects that work to mitigate the effects of climate change, improve agricultural resources, protect the State's water sources, advance conservation efforts, and provide recreational opportunities. You can read more about the [bill here](#).

March 15 Deadlines for NYC Resident Tax Benefits and Rebates from NYC DOF

[The Department of Finance administers tax exemptions and abatements that help New Yorkers save on their property taxes](#), including:

- Senior Citizen Homeowner Exemption (SCHE): Available to owners 65+ with annual income of \$58,399 or less.
- Disabled Homeowner Exemption (DHE): Available to owners with disabilities and annual income of \$58,399 or less.
- Veterans: Available to eligible veterans of foreign wars, veterans with honorable discharges, spouses/widow(er)s of veterans, and Gold Star parents.
- Clergy Exemption: Available to eligible members of the clergy or their unremarried surviving spouses. [Full eligibility information and application instructions here.](#)

\$150 Property Tax Rebate

Homeowners have until March 15, 2023, to apply if they haven't already received the fiscal year 2023 property tax rebate. If your property is your primary residence and your total household income is \$250,000 or less, you may be entitled to a \$150 property tax rebate. Think you qualify? [More info here](#).

And finally, Notice of Property Value (NOPV) Season Is Here! Mailed to you each January, the NOPV will tell you DOF's determination of your property's market and assessed values. Want to learn more about this important notice and get help with any questions you might have? [Find an outreach event near you](#).

If you have any concerns about these or any other legislative or community matter please email me at carrollr@nyassembly.gov or call (718) 788-7221.

-Bobby

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