



May 23, 2025

Greetings –

This week in Albany was busy with committee meetings and advocacy around legislation. The time frame to move bills is tight given the protracted budget negotiations, but I remain confident that I will be able to advance important policy priorities in the weeks ahead.

Standing up for Libraries Against Censorship

On Tuesday, I was pleased to speak at a breakfast for “Freedom to Read Advocacy Day” organized by Penguin Random House. Publishers, librarians, free speech advocates, and authors came to Albany to advocate for legislation to prevent censorship and book banning at public and school libraries including my bill [A.7353](#), which is intended to allow librarians to perform their work and curate collections according to widely accepted professional standards without fear of frivolous lawsuits. Also on Tuesday, my bill [A.7568](#), passed the Libraries and Education Technology Committee. This legislation would ensure school libraries throughout the State have uniform guidance regarding best practices for standards for the selection and curation of library material and criteria for the removal of existing school library material to help libraries combat censorship.



Renewable Energy Round table

On Monday, I convened an information session for my colleagues and staff led by New York Power Authority CEO Justin Driscoll regarding NYPA's renewable energy work, especially the implementation of the Build Public Renewables Act (BPRA). BPRA was my legislation that passed as part of the Fiscal 2023-24 Enacted Budget. At that time, it was hailed as the most significant piece of "Green New Deal" legislation nationwide to pass to date and empowered NYPA to build, own, and operate renewable energy projects according to a strategic plan developed every two years. NYPA is now taking a significantly more robust role in helping meet the State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) targets regarding emissions reductions and renewable energy.



Free Kids Book Giveaway

In partnership with the Cortelyou Road Library and Brooklyn Book Bodega

Through funding from my office I am sponsoring the Kids Book Giveaway event at the Cortelyou Road Library, after school on **Tuesday, June 17th from 2:30pm – 4:30pm**. My office is partnering with the Brooklyn Public Library and the Brooklyn Book Bodega to provide free children's books for all age groups.

If you'd like to donate gently loved books to pass on you can drop them off at my office (416 7th Avenue) from 9:30am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday, from now until June 17th. Please only bring books you would want in your own home, no torn books, books with scribbles, outdated books or adult books.

Memorial Day Remembrance

I wish everyone a good Memorial Day weekend. On this day, when we honor those who died while serving in our armed forces, I want to acknowledge the recent passing of my constituent Ed Schloeman, U.S. Marine and Vietnam War veteran. Ed founded Operation Warrior Shield, a not-for-profit organization that provides comprehensive support programs for service members, veterans, first responders and their families that are focused on transition, health and wellness, employment, prevention of homelessness, peer engagement, and connections to community resources.

I believe we should all be working to see a future where there is less violence in the world and a renewed commitment to resolving conflicts peacefully. The work Ed did, through Operation Warrior Shield, to promote the healing of the physical and psychological wounds of war is an essential part of that project. He will be missed.

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

-Bobby

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