



Dear Friends,

After a productive legislative session – albeit one where I wish there was more time to pass additional legislation – **I am now back in the district full-time**, meeting with constituents, attending (even more) in-district events... and working on my legislation for next year!

One of the first major post-session events was our 2024 Women of Distinction Ceremony, a terrific opportunity to recognize some of the amazing women of the 93rd Assembly District. As you may recall, we solicited nominations back in March during Women's History Month, and once again, a terrific group of women were nominated. I was also thrilled that same day to have the opportunity to help cut the ribbon on the new inclusive playground at the Bedford Hills Memorial Park.

But before we get to that, **I'd like to share with you my post-session wrap-up, which highlights key legislation – including my own – that passed both chambers, much of it awaiting the Governor's signature.**

Post-Session Legislative Wrap-Up

The NYS Legislature wrapped up the 2024 session in the early hours of Saturday, June 8, **with a total of 805 bills passed by both houses**, a decline from previous years. The clock unfortunately ran out for bills that many of my colleagues and I had hoped would get across the line, such as the NY Heat Act to help transition to renewable energy, the Returnable Container Act to reform our bottle deposit system, and various bills to protect consumers and the public. The decline resulted from a late 2024-2025 state budget and the Governor's decision in the closing days of session to suspend the start of congestion pricing.

Upon reflection, some of the most significant legislative successes resulted from the budget negotiations. While I mentioned these successes previously in my [budget wrap-up](#), I feel that **the most significant legislative action for the year was the restoration of state funding for public education**. It cannot be overstated how important it is that the Legislature and the Governor agreed to retain the "hold harmless" provision so that no school district would receive less funding than the previous year, and to restore (in part) the inflation factor in the computation of funding. The result was dramatic for every school district that I represent. Senator Shelley Mayer led the effort in the Senate, and I led in the Assembly, which would not have been successful without the intense efforts of the superintendents, parents, teachers, my colleagues, and the community at large. The Governor further agreed with the Legislature's efforts to update the antiquated formula for school funding.

Turning to post-budget legislative action, among the bills that passed both chambers are the following:

- The **SAFE for Kids Act** ([A08148-A/S7694A](#)) and the **Child Data Protection Act** ([A04967/S3281](#)), both supported by Governor Kathy Hochul and Attorney General Tish James and [already signed into law](#). The SAFE for Kids Act prohibits social media sites from using an addictive algorithm to deliver content to children without parental permission, and the Child Data Protection Act prohibits internet companies from collecting, using, sharing, processing, or selling children's data without parental consent. It also establishes clear rules and standards for social media companies to follow to foster a safer digital environment.

- A key environmental bill, **The Climate Change Adaptation Cost Recovery Program** ([A3351B/S2129B](#)) would require large, major New York polluters who have contributed significantly to climate change to contribute to a climate action fund. Payments by historical polluters into the program would be used for new or upgraded infrastructure needs, such as coastal wetlands restoration, stormwater drainage system upgrades, and energy-efficient cooling systems in public and private buildings. This includes schools and public housing, which are necessary to protect public safety and welfare in the face of the growing impacts of climate change. Disadvantaged communities would receive at least 35% (with a goal of at least 40%) of the overall benefits of program spending, consistent with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA).
- The **Electric Vehicle Charging in Public Lots** ([A4871/S1535A](#)), **Expansion of the Food Donation and Scraps Program** ([A5906/S5331A](#)), and the **NYC Green Roof Tax Abatement** ([A6901/S6409A](#)) all passed both chambers. These will go far in helping to attain our environmental goals.
- In the area of Election Law, the Legislature acted to make it easier to vote by absentee ballot by approving **a bill to enable local boards of elections to set up absentee ballot drop boxes.** ([A7243/S610](#))

My Sponsored Legislation

Among the bills that I sponsored that passed both chambers and are now awaiting the Governor's signature are:

- **Septic System Disclosure:** [A9330A/S8506](#) requires home sellers to provide the buyer with a disclosure statement on the property's sewage disposal system and information regarding its operation and maintenance.
- **Protection of Local Wetlands:** [A9712/S9379](#) authorizes localities with a freshwater wetlands law to adopt a further local law to allow the prohibition of the application of pesticides to wetlands (except commercial agricultural lands) hydrologically connected to any public water supply.
- **Heat Mitigation Plan:** [A9169A/S7781](#) requires the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to establish an annual heat mitigation plan. It also directs the extreme heat action plan work group of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to analyze the impact of extreme heat on incarcerated individuals and people working in prisons.
- **Health Care Professional In-Take Form:** [A8560/S8666](#) requires health care professionals to ask patients if they have a disability that requires accommodation under The Americans with Disabilities Act on patient in-take forms, and what reasonable accommodations are required.

As I mentioned earlier, not all of my bills made it across the finish line. **Some of the bills that I will keep pushing for in the next legislative session are:**

- My bill that would require all municipalities to update all applicable forms and data systems to include a gender "x" option where gender designation is requested. ([A8241B/S8680A](#))
- A bill that would create an interagency task force to promote the employment of people with disabilities both in state agencies and the private sector. ([A6397A/S8379A](#))
- A bill that directs the New York State Department of Labor to establish a voluntary training and certification program for employers that pledge to undertake neurodiversity training for their employees, and to adopt best practices for a neurodiverse workforce entitled the Neurodiversity Training Pledge. ([A9131B/S8797B](#))

Celebrating Our Women of Distinction

On June 18, I had the absolute pleasure of honoring 30 remarkable women in the 93rd Assembly District at our [2024 Women of Distinction ceremony](#). These awards – now in their third year – recognize women who make a difference in their communities and for the people around them, and/or excel in their professional careers. Moreover, many of these women often are not recognized for the important work that they do. Happily, this event provides us the opportunity to do just that.

My thanks to State Senator Shelley Mayer and Executive Director of the Community Center of Northern Westchester Clare Murray for joining us as our special guest speakers. **And extra special thanks to the Town of New Castle and Town Supervisor Vicky Tipp for hosting us at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center.** It was the perfect venue for this special evening.

Women of Distinction is truly my favorite event of the year, and every year we are incredibly lucky to have such amazing women who are nominated. **I am already looking forward to the 2025 awards!**



Honoring

Monica Andralliski	Mary Kane	Karen Roach
Kathryn Blough	Marcy Kelly	Cristina Lee Shih
Valerie Cancro	Shanna Krizan	Valerie Simmons
Allison Chernow	Elizabeth Lashua	Rachel Simon
Cynthia Curtis	Shauna Rae Long	Nicole Sorgi
Amy Dickan	Nora Kanze Manuele	Angela Sour
Jennifer Mebes Flagg	Stephanie McCaine	Amy Spadafino
Lisbeth "Boo" Fumagalli	Mary Molina	Adele Stanley
Jennifer Gold	Sherri Owles	Roslyn Stone-Pollock
Amanda Hufnagel	Gina Picinich	Catherine Tammaro



Ribbon Cut On the New Inclusive Playground at the Bedford Hills Memorial Park

Just prior to the Women of Distinction Ceremony, I was thrilled to join a ribbon-cutting at **Bedford Hills Memorial Park**, officially launching the new state-of-the-art inclusive playground that all children – including those with disabilities – can enjoy. The children and their parents couldn't have been happier

It was an honor to secure a New York State grant in the amount of \$250,000 to help pay the project costs. And it was wonderful to see the smiles and joy!



Free Bee-Line Service this Summer!

Great news for those who ride the Bee-Line! **Westchester County has once again lifted fares for the entire Bee-Line Bus System (including Para-Transit) for the summer**, beginning July 1st and running through September 2nd. For more information, [click here](#) or contact Bee-Line customer service at (914) 813-7777.



Welcoming A New Local Publication

Finally, I am delighted to share some exciting news! **We will soon have two high-quality media sources serving Bedford and Lewisboro, and Pound Ridge will once again have a local paper.**

Like many of you, I was saddened to learn earlier this year that the *Record-Review* was ceasing publication. Local papers are the backbone of information for so many of our communities, and their loss is deeply felt.

That is why I am so pleased that plans are now underway for an additional publication to serve the residents of Bedford, Lewisboro, and Pound Ridge. [The Recorder](#) is a nonprofit, independent, and nonpartisan weekly newspaper and website that will cover all aspects of local life, including town government, schools, police, the arts, and civic groups. It will be funded through community member donations and subscriptions, advertising, and sponsors.

The Recorder website is anticipated to launch shortly, with a weekly print edition to follow. To learn more and sign up for updates, [please click here](#).

I feel very fortunate that this area of my district will now have two high-caliber media sources, The Reporter, as well as the existing publications of the Halston Media Group, [The Katonah-Lewisboro Times](#), and [The Mt. Kisco-Bedford Times](#). Our communities are very lucky to have them.

As always, **please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions or if there is any assistance we can provide.** You can always reach me at burdickc@nyassembly.gov or by calling (914) 244-4450. My staff and I are always ready to help. Please also follow me on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) for continued up-to-date information.

Miss any of our previous newsletters? You can [find them here](#).

Sincerely yours,



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