

Assistant Speaker

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Working for Our Community in Albany and Brooklyn

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I joined with students, women, children and families across the nation to March For Our Lives in Washington, DC over the weekend. We marched to make it clear to the leaders in Congress that they must take action and bring an end to gun violence in schools. I support the fight for policy change to keep our children safe. We must ensure that this never happens again; we need stricter gun laws and we need to provide resources to children who are at risk of turning to violence. To view footage of the event: [click here](#).



Gun owners need to take responsibility for the guns they own. Right now taxpayers are picking up the tab for most gun related damages. Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence looked at gun incidents in New York and found the overall economic cost exceeds \$5.6 billion a year. Up to 85% of gunshot victims are either uninsured or on some form of publicly funded insurance. Car owners have liability insurance that covers the cost of damages involved in accidents. I think it's time we require gun owners to have insurance policies on their weapons. My bill (A2260) will finally shift the responsibility of gun ownership to the gun owner.



My bills require a psychologist (A10154), social worker (A9533A), and guidance counselor (A3584) in each elementary, intermediate, middle, junior high and senior high school in the state. The bills ensure that students are provided proper services and resources in school to prevent future violence. All 3 professionals together provide all aspects of a clinical intervention specialist team. I met with SD15 representatives (pictured left) to discuss emerging education issues and solutions.

“There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.”
— Nelson Mandela, Former President of South Africa



Let's celebrate 32BJ SEIU's hard-earned victory raising 40,000 airport service workers' wages to \$19 an hour. The years of protesting in bad weather and risking arrest have finally paid off. As a fellow champion for 32BJ SEIU for many years, I join with 32BJ SEIU and am thrilled by our great accomplishment.

The U.S Census Bureau has announced that it will include a question on citizenship status in the 2020 Census. I'm not surprised that the Justice Department was seeking to ask about citizenship on the 2020 Census form. President Trump's support for this unnecessary and untested question is an example of this administration's hostility towards people of color and immigrants. I am calling on the the Attorney General to take action with regards to the Census questionnaire.

Upcoming Events:

Provided here is information for a rally on my bill A.8776, Sanctuary State of New York. Please join us in City Hall on April 6th at noon to protect our freedom and rights; to resist policies that threaten our community and values; and to advance a vision for our children's New York. [English Version](#) [Spanish Version](#) [Chinese Version](#)

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If you have a comment or suggestion regarding the upcoming year and the 2018 session, please send an email, "like" the Facebook page and follow on Twitter.