



Assemblymember Robert Carroll

2021-2022 New York State Budget Summary



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Spring 2021

2021-2022 New York State Budget Summary

On April 7th, the Legislature passed the New York State \$212 billion budget for the 2021-22 Fiscal Year, an increase of \$18.7 billion over last year, representing an unprecedented level of investment in New York. This budget ensures that our schools are fully funded, renters and homeowners see direct aid for overdue bills, that undocumented immigrant workers become eligible for economic relief, and that New York's small businesses and cultural institutions receive billions of dollars of investment. All of this was made possible by coupling billions of dollars of emergency relief from the Biden administration with raising taxes on corporations and individuals making over \$1 million in income.

Assemblymember Robert Carroll's STATE BUDGET VICTORIES



- \$19.8 billion in Foundation Aid for our public schools, an increase of \$1.4 billion over last year's budget, and a commitment to fully fund the Foundation Aid formula over the next three years.
- \$2.4 billion in federal child care aid.
- \$13.7 billion to fund higher education for SUNY and CUNY.
- \$88 million more to increase the maximum TAP award to \$5665.
- \$3 billion in combined federal and state aid for tenant and homeowner relief.
- \$800 million for a Small Business Recovery Grant Program.
- \$100 million for a musical and theater production tax credit.
- \$2.1 billion to an excluded workers fund, to provide one-time unemployment benefits to immigrant workers who were not able to receive unemployment benefits and other government assistance due to their immigration status.
- Raised taxes on individuals earning more than \$1 million per year and large corporations.

If you have questions about the budget or any other legislative matter, please reach out to my district office at 718-788-7221 or email Carrollr@nyassembly.gov.

Education and Child Care

The budget includes \$19.8 billion in Foundation Aid for our public schools, an increase of \$1.4 billion over last year's budget, and a commitment to fully fund the Foundation Aid formula over the next three years. This investment level, thanks in part to \$12 billion in federal funding, will help students get back to school and back on track after more than a year of remote and blended learning.

Additionally, the budget allocates \$2.4 billion in federal child care aid to needy families and child care providers.

Investing in SUNY and CUNY

The budget includes \$13.7 billion to fund higher education, ensuring that SUNY and CUNY are not forced to raise their tuition. The budget also includes:

- \$20 million in scholarships for non-tuition related expenses such as housing and textbooks
- Increase in financial aid to eligible students through the Tuition Assistance Program from \$5,165 to \$5,665
- \$100 million for CUNY and \$100 million for SUNY to fund expansion projects

Rent and Mortgage Relief

The budget provides over \$3 billion in combined federal and state aid for tenant and homeowner relief.

- \$2.3 billion for Emergency Rental Assistance to eligible renters to pay for outstanding rent, utilities, and future rent and utilities
- \$100 million for a hardship fund for those who cannot access funds from the Emergency Rental Assistance Program
- \$100 million to reduce homelessness
- \$575 million in federal aid for mortgage assistance, including a three year, \$60 million commitment to fund the Homeowner Protection Program, which provides legal assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure

The budget includes language to expedite these programs, so New Yorkers are provided with the rental and mortgage relief they need.

The Excluded Workers Fund

The budget allocates \$2.1 billion to an excluded workers fund, to provide one-time unemployment benefits to immigrant workers who were not able to receive unemployment benefits and other government assistance due to their immigration status.

Supporting Small Businesses, Arts and Culture

For New York to fully recover from the economic devastation caused by COVID-19, the state must help revive our small businesses and cultural institutions. That's why the budget allocates over \$1 billion to help small businesses including:

- \$800 million for Small Business Recovery Grant Program
- \$100 million for musical and theater production tax credit
- \$35 million tax credit for restaurants affected by COVID-19
- \$50 million for the COVID-19 Recovery Workplace Initiative

The State budget also includes \$84.1 million to support the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), including \$40 million for a new Arts Recovery Grant Program to assist with reopening efforts of various not-for-profit arts organizations and to provide financial support for the conversion of outdoor venue spaces.



Assemblymember Carroll speaks at a rally to call for increased funding to support independent artists. Artists are a vital reason why New York is such a vibrant and exciting place, and they have been particularly impacted by the pandemic.

Environment

The State budget placed the \$3 billion Mother Nature Bond Act on the November 2022 ballot for the approval of New York voters. If New York voters approve the bond, the money will be invested in climate change mitigation projects and resiliency infrastructure projects.

The State budget also ensured that New York City's Local Law 97 remained intact. LL 97 is one of the state's most important pieces of climate legislation. This law requires buildings to reduce their carbon emissions, in stages, by 80% by 2050. I'm proud to have been a leader in the Assembly to protect LL 97, so that New York stays on track to meet the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act of 2019.



Assemblymember Carroll with Sue Donoghue from the Prospect Park Alliance, Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver and the President of Brooklyn College, Michelle Anderson at the unveiling of their new ecoWEIR pilot program in Prospect Park. The ecoWEIR will naturally eliminate toxic blue-green algae blooms that infest Prospect Park's waterways.

Veteran Support

The budget provides \$5 million for the Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Support Project, a program that works with veterans who are struggling with the challenges of post-traumatic stress disorder and other behavioral issues. The budget also includes \$4.2 million for state-wide programs to support veterans. This includes programs that provide legal assistance, mental health resources and employment assistance to veterans.

Health

The COVID-19 pandemic has put incredible stress on our health care system and demonstrated just how important it is that New Yorkers have quality, affordable health care. The budget provides \$542 million in restorations to Medicaid, including \$204.4 million for hospitals and \$51.75 million for Managed Long Term Care.

The budget will award additional contracts to the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program. CDPAP helps disabled New Yorkers eligible for Medicaid to more easily hire and direct their own homecare workers.

Revenue Increases

Over the next two years an additional \$7.8 billion in revenue will be raised due to tax increases on the wealthiest New Yorkers and corporations. These tax increases include:

- Increasing the tax rate for individuals earning over \$1 million a year and couples earning over \$2 million
- Creating two new higher tax brackets for New Yorkers earning \$5 million to \$25 million a year and New Yorkers earning more than \$25 million a year
- Increasing the corporate tax rate for corporate franchise taxpayers with incomes higher than \$5 million from 6.5% to 7.25%



Assemblymember Carroll took part in the renaming of the Argyle Road Tot-Lot in memory of Lt. Federico Narvaez. Lt. Narvaez lost his life while serving the people of the 70th precinct.

Important Legislation Passed Outside of the Budget

HALT Solitary Confinement Act

The use of long-term solitary confinement has become a far too common practice in our correctional facilities. Placing incarcerated people in isolated confinement for 23 hours a day, denying them basic human needs and subjecting them to extreme mental and physical duress is torture. It has no place in a modern and humane correctional system. That's why the legislature passed and the governor signed the Humane Alternative to Long-Term (HALT) Solitary Confinement Act. With the passage and signing of this bill into law, solitary confinement will be limited to no more than 15 consecutive days or 20 days in a 60-day period.

Marijuana Legalization

On March 30th, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA), which legalizes recreational marijuana for New Yorkers over the age of 21. In doing so, New York joins 14 other states in decriminalizing marijuana and regulating its legal production and sale. Wherever it is legal to smoke cigarettes, it is now legal for New Yorkers 21 years of age and older to possess and smoke marijuana. However, the cultivation and sale of marijuana will be more closely regulated, and a marijuana control board is being created and staffed. This board will license the cultivation, distribution, and sale of marijuana and marijuana products. All marijuana sold and distributed in New York must be grown in the State. The board will also ensure that licenses are equitably distributed throughout the State and provide opportunities for individuals who were hurt and targeted by the war on drugs. The first legal dispensaries will open starting on April 1, 2022.

Extending the Utility Termination and Eviction Moratoriums

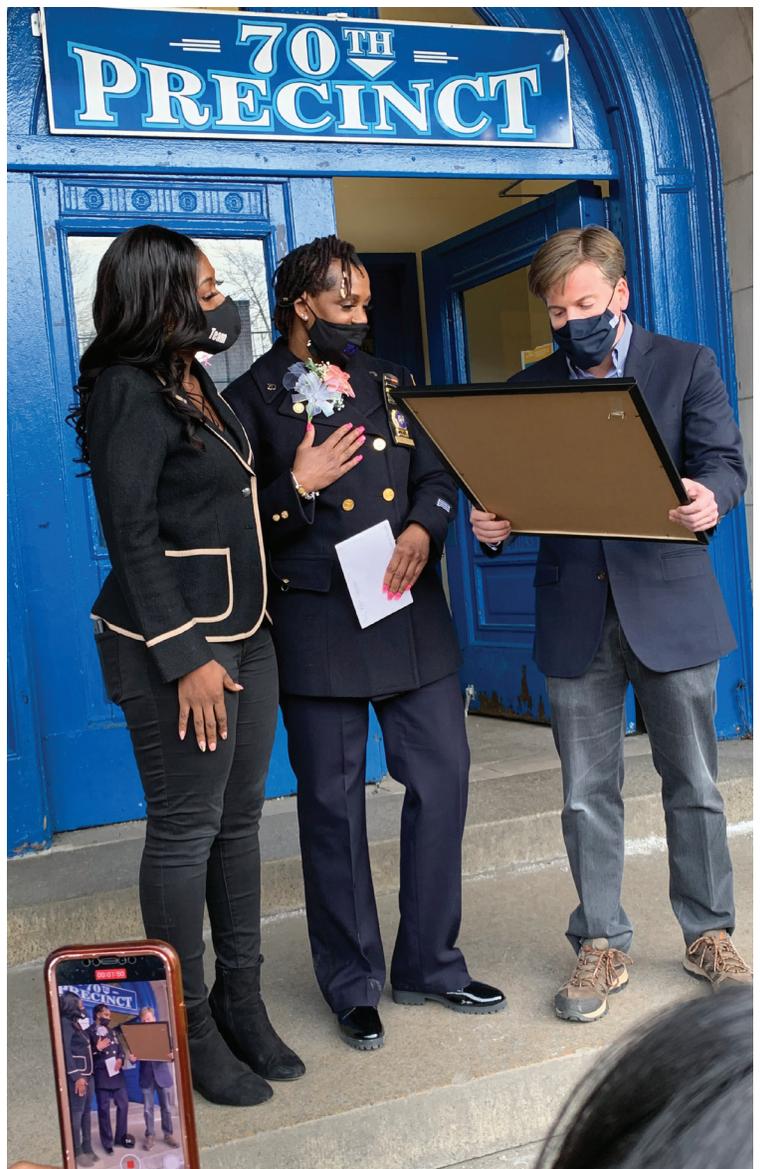
In May the Legislature extended the moratoriums on evictions and utility terminations. The utility termination moratorium ensures that no New Yorker can have their utilities shut off, including internet and television services, through December 31, 2021. The eviction moratorium protects New Yorkers from having eviction proceedings brought against them before August 31, 2021.

Restoring Voting Rights to Formerly Incarcerated People on Parole

In April, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed a bill restoring voting rights to formerly incarcerated people on parole. Previously, parolees would have to wait to be discharged from parole before having their voting rights restored. Re-enfranchising parolees is a step towards rehabilitation and reintegration into our community.



Assemblymember Carroll joined essential workers and Teamsters Local 202 at Hunts Point Market on day one of their strike to demand a modest pay increase. Thankfully after a number of days on strike the workers and management reached a deal.



Assemblymember Carroll and Assemblymember Diana Richardson presenting Detective Kim Walker with a proclamation for her 22 years of dedicated service to the people of New York.



Assemblymember Carroll and parents from PS 130 and PS 230 rally to stop Asian hate crimes.



Assemblymember Carroll on the picket line with Teamsters Local 272 protesting the wrongful termination of unionized garage employees.



Assemblymember Carroll speaking at the St. Francis de Sales School for the Deaf 60th Anniversary celebration.

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