



Assemblymember

Anna Kelles

Assembly District 125



June 20, 2023

Dear Neighbors,

It was wonderful to reconnect with the District last week before returning to Albany for the final additional days of session. I was grateful to have the opportunity to attend district events and to address important local issues such as NYSEG billing, which I will discuss further below.

Anna in the News



Last Thursday I held a press conference with support from local advocacy groups and community leaders stating our opposition to proposed NYSEG rate increases. These delivery rate hikes will compound over 3 years for total increases of 62% for electric and 17.8% for gas. I joined community organizations, businesses, and individuals calling for the Governor to reject these proposed increases that are coming at a time when many are struggling to cover their basic living expenses and stay in their homes. Meanwhile, NYSEG has been seeing record profits while their ratepayers have been experiencing ongoing service and billing issues.

I encourage all of my constituents who are concerned about this rate hike to [leave a comment with the Department of Public Service](#) (DPS) as well as a [comment to the Governor's office](#). Your voice and experiences are extremely important to this discussion.

If you have had or are currently experiencing service or billing problems with NYSEG, there are several steps you can take:

1. Call NYSEG Customer Service at 1-800-572-1111 to try and get it resolved.
2. If that is not effective, you can [file an official complaint](#) with DPS
3. You are also requested to [file comments about billing problems](#) in the Billing Investigations Docket
4. If you are threatened with termination of service and have a dispute with the utility, call the Public Service Commission (PSC) hotline at 1-800-342-3355. Also contact the Public Utility Law Project Hotline at 877-669-2572. For more information you can visit the [Public Utility Law Project website](#).

You can read more about the press conference in this [article from the Ithaca Voice](#).

You can also read the [press release from my office](#) and watch a [video of the full press conference](#).



New Bills to Track

Last week, four of my new prime bills were printed:

[A7805](#) Co-Occurring Disorder Education

Co-occurring disorder (COD) is the simultaneous suffering from mental illness and a comorbid substance use disorder, a phenomenon which has unfortunately been on the rise. This bill will require junior and senior high

schools to include co-occurring disorders in their health education curricula. This will help to provide young people who can be more at risk of CODs with the information and resources they need to recognize, prevent, and seek treatment for these issues.

A7808 New York State Bird Safe Buildings Act

This bill would reduce bird mortality by incorporating various bird safety features and strategies into the design and maintenance of state buildings.

A7811 Journalism Usage Fees

This bill would create a process for local news publishers to be compensated for their work that is used on social media platforms.

A7823 Care for Adult Malpractice Victims Injured at Birth Act

This bill will add adult day programs, sheltered workshops, and care coordination services to the health costs covered by the medical indemnity fund (MIF).

Around the District

Randall Middle School Career Fair

I had a great time at Randall Middle School's Career Fair last week talking to the 5th and 6th grade students about what a "lawmaker" is and that a focus of my career is to make laws that keep people safe.



Community Resources

Tompkins County Local Primary Election Early Voting

The Tompkins County Local Primary Election is on June 27, 2023 from 6am-9pm. Early voting is available through June 25, 2023 at the **Town of Ithaca Town Hall at 215 N. Tioga St.**

Early voting will be open at the following times:

TUE 6-20 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

WED 6-21 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

THU 6-22 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

FRI 6-23 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SAT 6-24 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SUN 6-25 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Finger Lakes Land Trust Annual Meeting

The Finger Lakes Land Trust will be holding their Annual Meeting tomorrow - Wednesday, June 21 via zoom at 7:30 pm. The meeting will include the Trust's annual report and election of board members, the presentation of the Volunteer of the Year award, and the Executive Director's report on the State of Conservation. You can [register to attend here](#).



In solidarity and health,

Anna R. Kelles

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