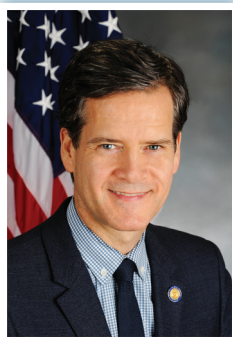


Senator Brad Hoylman

2017

WINTER NEWSLETTER



Dear Neighbor:

Thank you for giving me the privilege of representing you in the New York State Senate. With the regressive social and economic policies coming out of President Donald Trump's Washington, including the GOP's proposed tax bill that will be disastrous for our state, there's never been a more important time to fight for New Yorkers. In this report, I discuss some ways to do this, including important new laws and funding for our community, upcoming free events, as well as some local issues I've been working on.

Please contact me at 212-633-8052 or hoylman@nysenate.gov if you have any questions or concerns or want to share ideas. For regular updates, visit my website at <http://hoylman.nysenate.gov>. Also, keep in mind that I can assist you with matters such as housing, healthcare, and benefits/entitlements. I can help you resolve problems with government agencies, too. Remember, I'm here to help!

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brad Hoylman".

Brad Hoylman
State Senator
27th District

2018 Legislative Outlook

The 2017 Legislative Session concluded in June, but I'm already focusing on the upcoming 2018 Legislative Session, which starts in January. In addition to addressing the unresolved issues I told you about in my summer newsletter – including ethics reform, child sexual abuse, and mass transit – I hope to make progress on some new legislation. Many of these recently introduced bills are inspired by constituent suggestions, so if you have ideas for laws you'd like to see passed, please contact me. In the meantime, here are highlights of some of the legislation I introduced this year:

Ending "Weinstein-Style" Confidentiality Agreements

As we've learned in recent months, non-disclosure agreements are widely used in the public and private sectors to purchase the silence of survivors of sexual harassment and assault, which can result in predators remaining in the workplace and placing other employees at risk. I've introduced **S.6382-A**, which would prohibit companies from requiring employees to waive their substantive and procedural rights in connection with claims of discrimination, retaliation or harassment. Employees shouldn't be forced to sign away their legal rights as a condition of employment and, worse, predators like Harvey Weinstein shouldn't be able to purchase the silence of their victims and remain immune from justice. This month, I'll be meeting with industry and legal experts to get additional guidance on this complex issue.

Banning Use of Taxpayer Funds for Settlements

I'm introducing legislation that will prevent the State of New York from using public funds to pay for confidential settlement agreements arising out of sexual harassment and abuse claims against members of the State Legislature. Instead, any monies for such purposes would have to come from legislators' personal funds. Taxpayers shouldn't pay for hush money used to protect sexual predators.

Protecting Immigrants

In the wake of the Trump Administration's travel ban, I introduced **S.4234** to prohibit state and local governments from expending

any resources to assist the federal government in creating databases or registries of people based on race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or national or ethnic origin. Ensuring that all New Yorkers, including undocumented immigrants, have access to necessary state and local government services without fear of being reported to the federal government is a crucial step in making sure our state remains welcoming to immigrants, who are so important to the fabric of our society.

Stopping the Spread of Hepatitis C

Over 200,000 New Yorkers live with chronic hepatitis C infections, and the number of new infections is on the rise. According to public health experts, inmates in state prisons bear much of the burden of the hepatitis C epidemic, with the vast majority of infected inmates (over 94%) going untreated while they are incarcerated. To address this issue, my bill, **S.6322**, would direct the state prison system to study the prevalence of hepatitis C in their facilities, and identify legislative or budgetary obstacles to improving the surveillance, prevention, and treatment of the illness.

Combatting Climate Change

The historic devastation caused by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria underscores the immediate threat posed by human-induced global climate change. With a federal EPA led by climate deniers, it's more important than ever for states like New York to lead the way. To commemorate Earth Day this year, I introduced **S.5647**. The bill would require New York's public university systems – SUNY and CUNY – to divest any holdings they have in fossil fuel companies. Divestment sends a powerful message to the fossil fuel industry that its products are no longer considered valuable due to their negative impact on the planet.

Shining a Light on Anonymous LLCs

New York's laws allow almost anyone to start a limited liability company (LLC) with virtually complete anonymity – in fact, you're required to provide more personal information to get a library card from the New York Public Library than to start an LLC. While the vast majority of LLC owners are law-abiding business owners, the secretive structure of LLCs provides anonymity to unscrupulous



I joined NYC Comptroller Stringer at his press conference showing that MTA delays were costing the city economy \$400 million a year

landlords, embezzlers, traffickers, drug dealers, tax evaders, and terrorists. A bill I will soon introduce would require LLCs organized or authorized to do business in New York to disclose a list of their beneficial owners, with stiff penalties for knowingly providing false or fraudulent information. Under my legislation, the state could issue privacy waivers on a case-by-case basis.

Helping NYC's Small Businesses

Following up on the findings of my recent report and town hall on small business vacancies, I'm working on legislation to help New York City's small businesses with the crushing burden of skyrocketing commercial rent. My proposals include creating a public registry of "legacy" small businesses, enabling New York City to place zoning limitations on chain stores, and overhauling the burdensome Commercial Rent Tax at the state level, building on efforts led by the NYC Council earlier this year.



On the evening of the heinous terror attack on the Hudson River Park bikeway, I marched with Governor Cuomo and Mayor de Blasio at the Village Halloween Parade to demonstrate our community's defiance



Senator Brad Hoylman Presents:

TOYS TO AVOID!

2017 HOLIDAY SEASON



For over four decades, the nonprofit group World Against Toys Causing Harm, Inc. (W.A.T.C.H.) has issued its annual “10 Worst Toys” list, a hands-on tool for consumers to help avoid potential hazards while toy shopping. Clip and save this list! For more information go to www.toysafety.org or call me at 212-633-8052.



Hallmark “itty bittys” Baby Stacking Toy

Manufacturer or Distributor: Hallmark
Hazard: Potential for choking injuries



Pull Along Pony

Manufacturer or Distributor: Tolo Toys Limited
Hazard: Potential for strangulation and entanglement injuries



Wonder Woman Battle-Action Sword

Manufacturer or Distributor: Mattel
Hazard: Potential for blunt force injuries



Hand Fidgetz Spinners

Manufacturer or Distributor: Kipp Brothers
Hazard: Potential for choking injuries



Spider-Man Spider-Drone Official Movie Edition

Manufacturer or Distributor: Marvel; Skyrocket Toys LLC
Hazard: Potential for eye and body impact injuries



Nerf Zombie Strike Deadbolt Crossbow

Manufacturer or Distributor: Hasbro; Nerf.com
Hazard: Potential for eye injuries



Slackers Slackline Classic Series Kit

Manufacturer or Distributor: Brand 44
Hazard: Potential for strangulation and fall-related injuries



Oval Xylophone

Manufacturer or Distributor:
Plan Toys, Inc., Plan Creations Co., LTD.
Hazard: Potential for ingestion and choking injuries



Jetts Heel Wheels

Manufacturer or Distributor: Razor USA LLC
Hazard: Potential for blunt impact and fire-related burn injuries



Brianna Babydoll

Manufacturer or Distributor: Melissa & Doug
Hazard: Potential for choking injuries

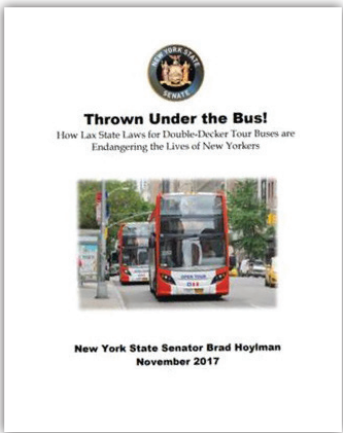
Holy Gotham City, Batman! _____



This fall, to my astonishment, I found an injured bat alongside a tree bed on West 10th Street. With the help of Community Board 2, the bat was delivered to the Wild Bird Fund, which identified it as a female eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) that had probably suffered a concussion from hitting a window. After successful rehabilitation a few days later, the bat was released in Central Park, from where it will migrate south for the winter. If you find wildlife in need of medical care, you can visit the Wild Bird Fund at 565 Columbus Avenue (between 87th and 88th Streets) or contact them at 646-306-2862. For more information go online to wildbirdfund.org.

Report on the Dangers of Double-Deckers _____

This month I released my new report, *Thrown Under the Bus: How Lax State Laws for Double-Decker Tour Buses are Endangering the Lives of New Yorkers*. The report shows that New York City’s double-decker sightseeing bus industry, which has tripled in size over the last decade, is dangerously unregulated compared to other bus systems. For example, loopholes in state law exempt drivers of double-decker sightseeing buses from the periodic medical exams and recurring drivers’ tests required for operators of MTA, charter and intercity buses. If you’d like a copy of the report, visit my website or call me at 212-633-8052.



Senate Liberty Medal Awarded to Chelsea’s ABT Dancer _____



On October 25th, I was honored to bestow the State Senate’s Liberty Medal upon Chelsea resident Gray Davis (pictured left), a principal dancer at the American Ballet Theater. Last June, Gray witnessed a man being pushed onto the subway tracks at 72nd and Broadway. Despite the obvious risks and a dance-related injury, Gray leapt onto the tracks and lifted the unconscious man out of the way of an oncoming train. Thanks to the NYPD, the assailant was arrested shortly thereafter. The Senate Liberty Medal is awarded to recognize and honor individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers. This description certainly applies to Gray Davis!

Senator Brad Hoylman Presents a

FREE

VISION SCREENING EVENT

Monday

January 29, 2018

9:00 – 11:30 am

348 8th Avenue (between 26th and 27th Streets)

Penn South Community Room, Building 8A

Please call my office at 212-633-8052 to make an appointment.





Over 300 Penn South residents took advantage of my free shred event this fall

Success! Senior Center Funding Saved

At the Penn South annual shareholders meeting on November 5th (pictured left), I was delighted to report that the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) has restored funding to the Penn South Social Services Program for Seniors (PSSS). NYSOFA had initially rejected support for this vital program that serves nearly a thousand seniors at Penn South, which has pioneered providing health and social services to older residents in their own building complexes as the nation’s first Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (or NORC). Along with my colleagues in government including Assembly Member Richard N. Gottfried, we pointed out that statistics show that NYSOFA grants to NORCs like Penn South actually save the State of New York millions of dollars a year by helping seniors stay healthy and independent years longer than if they were forced into expensive nursing facilities. I will continue to fight for additional funding for seniors in the upcoming state budget as well.

They Said It Couldn’t Be Done

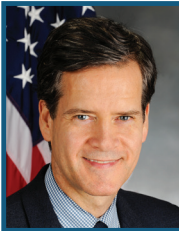
In a victory for the residents of Hell’s Kitchen, this October the Port Authority acknowledged the feasibility of a build-in-place alternative for a new bus terminal, an important step towards protecting local community and historic resources. Last year, the Port initially claimed rebuilding in place was not technically viable and proposed a massive new terminal a block west of the current site combined with the possibility of the destruction of affordable apartments and community spaces through eminent domain. I joined my colleagues in demanding a formal assessment of the engineering requirements and am pleased that an on-site reconstruction is being considered. We must take all possible measures to avoid further disrupting the dense residential neighborhood of Hell’s Kitchen, which already bears the significant traffic and environmental burdens of hosting this regional transportation hub, which serves nearly a quarter million passengers every weekday.



Senator Brad Hoylman
322 Eighth Avenue, Suite 1700
New York, NY 10001



2017 WINTER NEWSLETTER



New York State Senator
BRAD HOYLMAN
27th Senate District
322 Eighth Avenue, Suite 1700
New York, NY 10001

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ✓ **Legislative Outlook**
- ✓ **Clip-out Guide of Holiday Season Toys to Avoid**
- ✓ **My New Report on Double-Decker Sightseeing Buses**
- ✓ **Building a New Bus Terminal In-Place...& more**

Senator Brad Hoylman Presents:

A TOWN HALL ON THE RESISTANCE *HOW STATES CAN TRUMP WASHINGTON*

Thursday, February 1, 2018

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

CUNY Graduate Center

Elebash Recital Hall

365 Fifth Avenue • First Floor
(between 34th & 35th Streets)

Space is limited. To reserve your seat contact 212-633-8052 or hoylman@nysenate.gov
Free and open to the public.

