



New York State Senator
DAPHNE JORDAN
(R, C, IP, REF) 43RD SENATE DISTRICT



Dear Friend:

Happy Friday and welcome to the April 9 edition of my Weekly Wrap! I hope you had a wonderful and blessed Easter. It was a busy week, and I fill you in on it all below!

BIG happenings this week:

- The State Senate completed work on the 2021-22 State Budget (after staying in session all night on Tuesday).
- The Senate Democratic Majority passed its “Excluded Workers Fund,” and I share my MAJOR concerns later in this week’s Wrap about this irresponsible handout of \$2.1 BILLION in taxpayer money to illegal immigrants and others.

Other important news:

- It’s “National Library Week,” which I was proud to observe in recognition of all that our excellent public libraries and hard-working, skillful, and helpful librarians have done throughout this past year to serve their communities during the pandemic.
- In a short video, I explain all you need to know about the 2021-22 State Budget.
- I had an interview on One America News about the Majority’s Excluded Workers Fund giveaway of \$2.1 billion.
- The Cuomo Curfews continue to single out and punish struggling NY bars and restaurants.
- Mayor Speed of Philmont retires after over 20 years of service.
- RecruitNY is hosting a virtual campaign to grow the fire service.
- I outline my concerns with the Senate Majority’s budget bill provisions regarding hunting and the Farmland Protection Working Group.
- North Greenbush is beginning construction for improved traffic and public safety.
- A special announcement was held this week regarding renewable energy through a project launched by Boralex and Northern Power & Light, which you’ll read more about in my Weekly Wrap.

This Saturday is supposed to be beautiful weather-wise, and I hope you can enjoy some time outside! As always, I want to hear from **YOU**. If you have a comment, question, or concern, please email me at jordan@nysenate.gov or call my office at **(518) 371-2751**. Thank you for reading and subscribing to my Weekly Wrap. It’s an honor and a privilege serving you!

National Library Week

National Library Week

April 4-10

"I see libraries and librarians as frontline
soldiers in the war against illiteracy and
the lack of imagination."

Neil Gaiman



As a ranking member of the Senate Libraries Committee, it's great to see April 4-10 designated as "National Libraries Week." I was happy to support this bipartisan legislation advanced by Senate Libraries Committee Chairman Sean Ryan. ([You can watch my floor remarks on this here.](#))

Throughout the pandemic, our public libraries have continued to help close the digital divide and ensure that our communities stay informed. I want to thank and recognize all the dedicated, creative, hardworking library staff and librarians for the positive impact they make on our communities!

"Remember that our librarians were the original search engines; if you need to know something, ask your librarian!"

2021-22 State Budget: Missed opportunities and misplaced priorities



I explain everything you need to know about the 2021-22 State Budget in under four minutes. It's an important to stay informed. [Watch my video here.](#)

One America News interview

Statement from Senator Daphne Jordan Regarding the "Excluded Worker Fund"

DAYPHE JORDAN March 31, 2021 | ISSUE: NYS BUDGET TAXPAYER DOLLARS ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

Senator Jordan is in opposition to **BILLIONS** of taxpayer dollars being given to illegal immigrants and released convicted felons via an "Excluded Worker Fund" potentially being part of the 2021-22 State Budget

"Albany's fiscal irresponsibility with hard-working taxpayer's money apparently knows no end. The latest outrage is an effort to potentially establish an 'Excluded Worker Fund' (Senate Bill S.4543 and the Senate Democrat One-House ELFA, Part

OAN **NEW YORK NEARS \$2B UNEMPLOYMENT DEAL FOR ILLEGALS**

WWW.OANN.COM

This week I had an interview on OAN about the outrageous \$2.1 billion handout for illegal immigrants. [You can watch the clip here.](#)

Recruit NY



Recruit NY weekend is coming up on April 24-25, where individuals will have the opportunity to take part in a virtual or traditional open house for recruiting volunteer firefighters. This is a great way to give to the community! Learn more at recruitny.org.

Mayor Speed: Two decades of exemplary public service

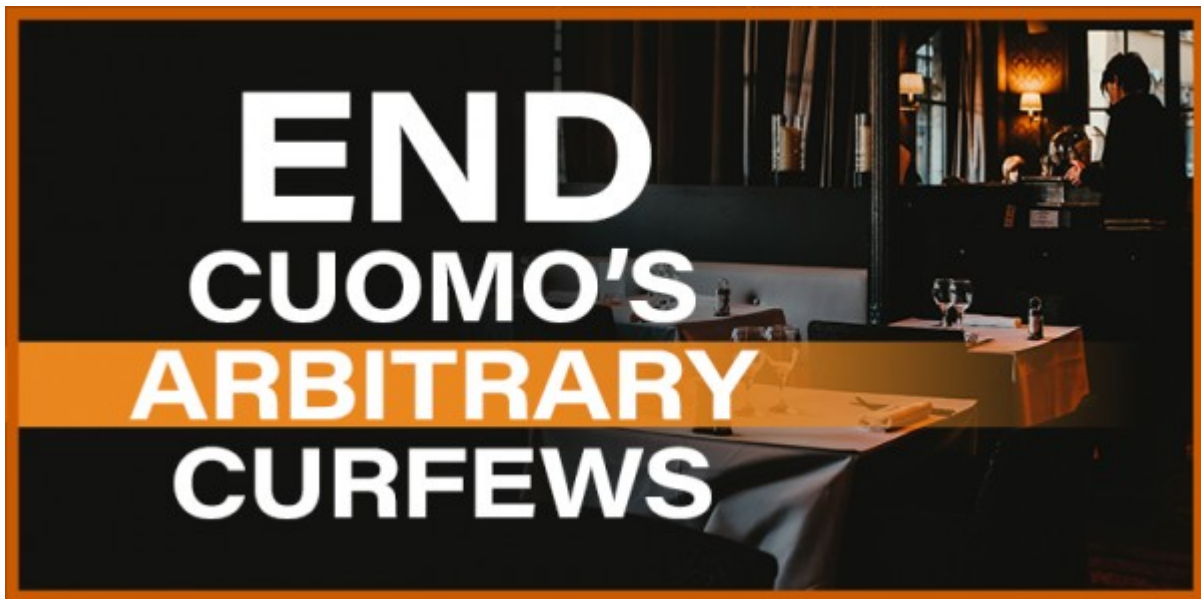


Congratulations to Mayor Clarence “Skip” Speed upon his retirement after more than 20 YEARS of exemplary public service to the Village of Philmont! I was honored to present him with an NYS Senate Legislative Proclamation recognizing his years of service to the community, alongside his wife, Mrs. Winnie Speed.

That beautiful blue sign pictured above was presented by the Village of Philmont Deputy Mayor Douglas Cropper. Claverack Town Supervisor Kippy Weigelt also presented Mayor Speed with a proclamation from the Columbia County Board of Supervisors.

Congratulations again Mayor Speed and thank you for all that you’ve done in service to the community!

End the Cuomo Curfews



On Monday, the 11 p.m. state curfew officially lifted for casinos, movie theaters, bowling alleys, billiard halls, gyms, and fitness centers. However, the 11 p.m. curfew remains in effect for the struggling bars and restaurants industry. There is NO science to back this and we MUST keep fighting for our bar/restaurant owners and staff! It’s time for New York to open up, and our hardworking business owners are more than capable to keep their customers, team members, and facilities safe.

Opposing the Majority’s giveaway of \$2.1 billion in taxpayer money



I voted NO on the Senate Democratic Majority's "Excluded Workers Fund" that we debated this week as part of the 2021-22 State Budget. Here are a few reasons why I voted in opposition to this misguided measure:

- Hands out \$2.1 billion of taxpayers' money to illegal immigrants and others.
- The men and women of NYS who follow our laws, pay their bills, give back to their communities, play by the rules, and do the right thing will be used as a 24/7 ATM for anyone the government pleases.
- Applicants are NOT required to prove that they are in the United States lawfully to be eligible for the Excluded Worker benefit.
- Records of excluded workers are not public records, and can only be obtained through subpoena or warrant, and it's required that any entity gaining access to the records of excluded workers MUST certify that they will NOT be used for civil immigration purposes or disclosed to any agency that primarily enforces immigration law.

Bottom line? The Majority's Excluded Workers Fund was DISHONEST and UNFAIR to law-abiding, hard-working taxpayers who are paying the cost! ([Watch my floor remarks here.](#))

Standing up for NY's hunting heritage



Hunting is an incredibly important part of New York's economy, a proud heritage of celebrating our great outdoors that's passed down from generation to generation. But, regarding the Majority's State Budget provision relative to hunting, there were many unanswered questions.

The Majority was utterly unable to answer my questions regarding the differences between the youth hunting provisions originally proposed in the Governor's 2021-22 Executive

Budget proposal, and those that would be established in the enacted 2021-22 State Budget. The Majority was also unable to explain their reasoning for the creation of an “opt-in” mechanism for counties’ participation as opposed to an “opt-out.”

The Majority failed to follow through on the broader hunting reforms that were outlined in the Executive Budget proposal and, in so doing, missed an opportunity to help our state capitalize on the overwhelmingly increase of interest in hunting and outdoor activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This shortsighted mindset will...

- Miss the state’s opportunity to generate more revenue through wildlife sports.
- Fail to build upon the growing interest in hunting.
- Ultimately deny our wildlife conservation programs of much-needed revenue.

It is for these reasons that I voted NO on this bill. ([Watch my floor remarks here.](#))

“Farmland Protection Working Group” within the State Budget



Regarding the “Farmland Protection Working Group,” (a section of the Public Protection/General Government State Budget Bill), my concern was that the provision is basically a study by State Agencies looking into recommendations of possible approaches to fix the adverse impacts that renewable energy facilities would have on farmland. This doesn’t do anything of substance for the serious issue, and for that reason, I voted no. ([Watch my floor remarks here.](#))

Groundbreaking ceremony in Rensselaer County



It was exciting being part of the groundbreaking ceremony in Rensselaer County pictured above, where a new roundabout will be constructed in North Greenbush at the intersection of Route 4, Williams Road and Glenmore Road. The plans were designed by both the state and town, and is federally funded and state funded. I'm proud to be standing beside my friends, Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin, Supervisor Joe Bott, and Councilwoman & Legislative Vice-Chair Kelly Hoffman. GREAT things are happening in Rensselaer County!

Renewable energy project



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 8, 2021

**New York's Largest Community Renewable Project—
Sissonville Hydro—Goes Live**
***Locally produced renewable electricity now available for
area customers***

POTSDAM, N.Y. – Northern Power & Light and Boralex Hydro announced customers have begun receiving locally-sourced electricity through New York's largest community renewable energy project. Now electricity consumers can choose to power their homes, businesses, and lives with renewable electricity produced nearby. In the coming year, 15,000 MWh of electricity generated on the Raquette River at the Sissonville hydroelectric facility will be sold to subscribers in surrounding communities.

Hundreds of local residents and businesses including Paul Smith's College, the Potsdam Co-op, and Meadow East apartments in Potsdam began receiving power from Sissonville in March. Service is currently available for an additional 300 customers.

This project by Saranac-Lake based Northern Power & Light and Boralex Hydro is part of a state program called Community Distributed Generation, which allows customers to subscribe to a share of the energy produced by local renewable producers. Through this initiative, Northern Power & Light producers retain more of the value of the electricity they make, and customers served by National Grid can connect directly to local sustainable electricity at no additional cost.

The press release pictured above references Boralex and Northern Power & Light's special announcement on Thursday of a terrific renewable energy project. The project features safe, sustainable, locally produced renewable energy that will provide residents with power that is good for the economy and good for the environment. I'm happy to support this effort which is the largest of its kind in New York State.

I commend the leadership of Northern Power & Light and Boralex for their strong commitment to realizing this project and meeting the growing energy needs of families and businesses throughout the community. Boralex is a recognized leader in renewable energy, specializing in the burgeoning hydroelectric, wind, solar, and thermal sectors. Of course, I'm proud to have this forward-thinking, transformative company's site in South Glens Falls in my 43rd Senate District. I look for even more great things from Boralex in the days and

months to come!

Have a great weekend! Stay up-to-date with me throughout the week on social media:



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THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE