

# Senator Brad Hoylman

## WINTER 2018

### LEGISLATIVE AND COMMUNITY UPDATE



Dear Neighbor:

Thank you for giving me the privilege of representing you again in the New York State Senate. November's elections saw a blue wave sweep across the state, leading Democrats to win 8 new seats and control the chamber for only the third time in fifty years. This new majority also includes a series of historic "firsts," including the first woman who will lead a legislative chamber in Albany; the most women elected to the State Senate; and the first Taiwanese-American, Indian-American, Colombian-American, Persian-American and Salvadoran-American senators. I think this strong and diverse coalition will enable the Senate to act on legislation that has been blocked for years, which I discuss in my report below.

As I prepare for the legislative session beginning January 9, I want to hear from you. Please contact me at **212-633-8052** or **hoylman@nysenate.gov** if you want to share ideas or have any questions or concerns. 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, as well as help you resolve problems with government agencies. I'm here to help!

Sincerely yours,

Brad Hoylman  
State Senator  
27th District

## 2019 Legislative Outlook

The 2019 Legislative Session will be a watershed moment for the State Senate. The new Democratic majority will permit the Senate to act on a raft of progressive bills that have been denied hearings and votes for decades, in addition to taking new steps to **protect New Yorkers from the Trump administration**, renewing and **strengthening the rent stabilization laws**, funding mass transit through **congestion pricing**, **criminal justice reform** and combating **climate change**. Here are several more areas in greater detail:

**Woman's right to choose** – New York's reproductive health laws have not been updated since before *Roe v Wade*. This means state law actually still criminalizes abortion after 24 weeks, except in cases where a woman's life is at risk, with no exceptions for fetal viability or risks to a woman's health or reproductive future. As a result, healthcare providers are often unwilling to provide care for fear of being criminally prosecuted.

**Solution** – The Senate should pass the Reproductive Health Act, which I co-sponsor and has repeatedly passed the Assembly under the leadership of Assemblymember Deborah Glick, to codify the protections of *Roe* into state law and repeal the draconian sections of the penal law that create a barrier to accessing safe abortion.

**Voting laws** – Did you stand in line for a long time on Election Day? I did, too. That's in part because New York has among the most antiquated voting laws in the nation and, not surprisingly, among the lowest voter turnout rates as well — 41st among states.

**Solution** – Bills I co-sponsor would establish an early voting system to permit eligible voters in New York State to vote in person during a designated period prior to any election day and request to vote by mail without an excuse; automatically register voters who interact with state or local agencies unless they opt not to do so; and consolidate federal and state primary dates. In addition, reform of the Board of Elections is long overdue.

**Ethics reform** – With the conviction of leaders in both the Senate and Assembly and members of the Executive branch this year, it is imperative to restore public confidence in state government.

**Solution** – The Senate should pass legislation I co-sponsor to close the notorious "LLC loophole" that enables companies to circumvent New York's campaign finance laws, and my legislation to limit the outside income of state legislators and require presidential candidates to release their taxes to expose conflicts of interests in the White House.

**Gun violence** – New York has one of the strongest gun laws in the nation, the SAFE Act, which passed in 2013 (my first year in the State Senate) but mass shootings still occur on average nearly once a day in the United States, including this October at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh (11 dead) and earlier this month in Thousand Oaks, California (12 dead).

**Solution** – Legislation of which I'm the prime co-sponsor would establish Extreme Risk Protection Orders or a "red flag" law, enabling family members and law enforcement to petition a court to temporarily remove firearms from people who might do harm to themselves or others. In addition, the Senate should strengthen gun background checks, ban accessories like "bump stocks" that make weapons more dangerous, make 3-D printed guns illegal, and fund gun violence research.

**Child sexual abuse** – New York has among the worst statutes of limitation for survivors of child sexual abuse in the nation, requiring survivors to file claims by their 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday and thereby leaving most of them without recourse in court.

**Solution** – The Child Victims Act, which I sponsor with Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal, would rectify this unfair situation by raising the statute of limitations and allowing adult survivors one year to revive civil claims against their abusers and institutions that may have harbored them, providing justice to survivors, identifying child predators and possibly exposing the kind of institutional cover-ups we've seen revealed in other states.



*I joined Comptroller Scott Stringer to announce his report showing New York has lost 400,000+ affordable apartments since 2005.*

**LGBTQ rights** – Transgender New Yorkers are not protected by state human rights laws or hate crimes laws, which is particularly egregious given the increasing number of hate crimes against this community and the erosion of federal civil rights protections for transgender people initiated by the Trump administration.

**Solution** – The Senate should pass the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (GENDA), which I sponsor with Assemblymember Dick Gottfried, that would protect transgender people from hate crimes and codify non-discrimination policies, as well as pass bills to ban so-called LGBTQ "conversion therapy," eliminate the gay and trans "panic" defense to murder prefaced on the belief that a victim's sexual orientation or gender identification is to blame for a defendant's violent reaction (yes, that one's still on the books!), modernize birth certificates to create a gender neutral designation, and support the legalization of gestational surrogacy contracts.



*My Senior Resource Fair with SEIU 32BJ this year was bigger than ever with nearly 60 vendors and over 500 people attending!*



Senator Brad Hoylman Presents:  
**TOYS TO AVOID!**  
**2018 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](http://www.toysafety.org) or call me at **212-633-8052**.



**Nickelodeon Nella Princess Knight  
 Pillow Pets Sleeptime Lites**

Manufacturer or Distributor: CJ Products, Inc.  
 Hazard: Potential for ingestion and battery-related injuries



**Zoo Jamz Xylophone**

Manufacturer or Distributor: Vtech Electronics  
 North America, L.L.C.  
 Hazard: Potential for ingestion and choking injuries



**Nerf Vortex VTX Praxis Blaster**

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



**Nici Wonderland Doll:  
 Miniclara the Ballerina**

Manufacturer or Distributor: NICI  
 Hazard: Potential for choking injuries



**Marvel Black Panther Slash Claw**

Manufacturer or Distributor: Hasbro  
 Hazard: Potential for eye and facial injuries



**Stomp Rocket Ultra Rocket**

Manufacturer or Distributor: D & L Company  
 Hazard: Potential for eye, face and other impact injuries



**Slackers Slackline Classic Series Kit**

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



**Chien à Promener Pull Along Dog**

Manufacturer or Distributor: Janod; Juratoys  
 Hazard: Potential for entanglement and  
 strangulation injuries



**Cabbage Patch Kids Dance Time Doll**

Manufacturer or Distributor: Wicked Cool Toys LLC  
 Hazard: Potential for choking injuries



**Cutting Fruit**

Manufacturer or Distributor: Kid O Toys  
 Hazard: Potential for puncture and blunt force injuries



## A New Middle School – Worth the Wait

This fall, I joined parents, children and community leaders to cut the ribbon at the opening of MS 297 and P751 at 75 Morton Street in Greenwich Village. I'm thrilled to have played a small part in the creation of this new school as the former chair of Community Board 2, which worked a decade ago with parents and elected officials to identify locations and gather support for a new middle school in response to overcrowding in District 2. The problem persists. More than half of NYC's public school students attend overcrowded schools, and I'm currently fighting alongside with my government colleagues and the community board to ensure that NYU honors its promise to build a new school on Bleecker Street as part of its development plan.

## Success! MTA Commits to Monitor Air Quality

On October 26, I authored a letter to NYCT President Andy Byford (pictured with me at right touring 14th Street last month) with Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Assemblymember Harvey Epstein and 18 other elected officials in Manhattan and Brooklyn urging NYCT to install ambient air monitors along the route of the L Train tunnel shutdown because of the 185 diesel buses that will be deployed every two minutes. On October 30, Byford agreed to the request, which he said will include baseline readings before the April 27, 2019 shutdown and publicly accessible air quality data. I've also urged the MTA to quickly ramp up use of electric and renewable natural gas (RNG) buses. An estimated 2,700 New Yorkers die prematurely each year as a result of air pollution, so the public is right to be concerned about the impact of these additional diesel buses on human health and the environment.



## Fighting for Safer Streets



A New Yorker is killed in a traffic crash nearly once every two days. To help address this epidemic of traffic fatalities, this fall I convened a meeting with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), community boards and elected officials on a traffic safety study we requested along the West Side Highway from 59th Street to the Battery. We're now working closely with NYSDOT to identify the traffic risks along this increasingly used corridor and propose new safety recommendations. In Albany, I'll be joining Families for Safe Streets (pictured at left with me) pushing for traffic calming measures to protect pedestrians such as new school speed cameras (Assemblymember Glick's bill on this critical issue was shamefully blocked last year in the State

Senate), as well as congestion pricing and safer bike lanes. If you've identified a dangerous intersection or road condition, I want to know. Please call me at **212-633-8052**.

**Senator Brad Hoylman Presents**  
**FREE FLU SHOTS**  
**Friday, November 30, 2018**  
**10:00 AM-12:00 PM**  
**322 8th Avenue, Suite 1700**  
**(enter on 26th Street)**

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



## Fixing Penn Station

More than 650,000 people pass through Penn Station every day-- more than the entire population of Portland, Oregon. With chronic delays, crumbling infrastructure and dangerous overcrowding, urgent action is necessary to save North America's largest transit hub, especially since ridership is estimated to increase as much as 150,000 by the year 2040. I'm joining an effort recently announced by the Regional Plan Association, along with Borough President Brewer (pictured with me left), Community Boards 4 and 5, and others to launch a public campaign to generate support to fix Penn Station before it's too late.

## Saving Our History

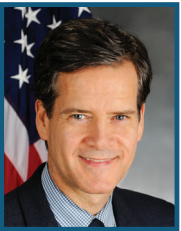
I testified before the City Council in opposition to an application to allow the construction of an eight-story hotel next to the 1832 Merchant's House, one of the city's first designated landmarks. Studies from architects and engineers showed that the proposed construction would have posed a threat to this fragile historic structure, risking complete collapse. Thanks to Councilmember Carlina Rivera, on September 26 the City Council voted unanimously to deny the developer's application, a tremendous victory for historic preservation.



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



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New York State Senator  
**BRAD HOYLMAN**  
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NYS SENATOR  
**BRAD HOYLMAN**

AND

NYC COMPTROLLER  
**SCOTT M. STRINGER**



## UPSTATE/DOWNSTATE HOUSING ALLIANCE

INVITE YOU TO A TENANT TOWN HALL

# FIGHTING FOR NYC:

## THE FUTURE OF RENT REGULATIONS AND TENANTS' RIGHTS

**NOVEMBER 28, 2018**

Doors open 6pm  
Event starts 6:30pm

**NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Celeste Auditorium  
475 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10018

**Featuring:**

**Scott Stringer**, New York City Comptroller  
**Brad Hoylman**, New York State Senator  
**Aaron Carr**, Housing Rights Initiative  
**Sheila Garcia**, Community Action for Safe Apartments  
**Delsenia Glover**, Tenants and Neighbors

To RSVP and for more information, please call (212) 669-3916, or email [action@comptroller.nyc.gov](mailto:action@comptroller.nyc.gov). If you need language translation services or other special accommodations, please call 212-669-4315 | Wheelchair accessible facility ♿