



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



Dear Friend:

Welcome to my Weekly Wrap for the week ending July 24! This was an especially busy week, as the New York State Senate reconvened for multiple days of legislative session. I also was happy to attend public events and continue advocating for my constituents across the 43rd Senate District. In this edition of my Weekly Wrap, you'll find information about the legislative initiatives I've put forth in the Senate to protect seniors, help students, protect law enforcement, and help the more than one million unemployed New Yorkers get back to work. You will also read about several ribbon cuttings that my staff and I attended across the 43rd District.

As we keep moving forward and continue working to reopen our economy, safely and sensibly, I'm proud to support our local Chambers of Commerce, small businesses, and communities. As always, if you have a question or concern, contact me at jordan@nysenate.gov or call my office at (518) 371-2751 if I can be of assistance. Have a great weekend!

– **Senator Daphne Jordan, 43rd District**

Co-Sponsoring Important Legislation to Protect our Seniors

I'm proud to cosponsor Senate Bill S.8756 which provides necessary elements that **MUST** be taken to ensure a **TRUE** investigation of the COVID-19 deaths of at least 6,400 and possibly upwards of 12,000 New Yorkers in state-regulated nursing homes. The elements are an independent, bipartisan unpaid state commission with subpoena power to investigate and issue a report sent to the legislature with findings and future recommendations. We can never let a tragedy like this ever happen again!

I support this well thought out legislation with my good friend and colleague Senator Jim Tedisco, Senate Republican Leader Senator Rob Ort, Assembly Republican Leader Will Barclay, and Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh. You can view the legislation I'm cosponsoring at this link: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/s8756>.



On Monday, I took part in, and spoke at, a wonderful opening event for the Roosevelt II Bathhouse at Saratoga Spa State Park. This project marked a successful realization of careful planning, community collaboration, and significant, sustained state financial investments that

will ensure Saratoga Spa State Park remains a true treasure of our park system for years to come!

This project's innovative partnership with COSEA will provide more opportunities for health, wellness, and relaxation programming, all of which are so critically important during these challenging times. This facility is steeped in a venerable history, witness the historic prints of the building from 1935 (pictured above).

The many facility enhancements included restoration of the historic lobby, installation of new restrooms, and the addition of new heating, plumbing, and ventilation, will ensure that we preserve this facility's incredible past for the enjoyment of future generations. Monday's event also featured New York State Parks Commissioner Erik Kulleseid, and Heather Mabee, daughter of Mary Lou Whitney, and Saratoga-Capital Region Parks Commission Chair, and Alane Ball Chinian, Saratoga Capital District Regional Director, New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation. Together, we proudly cut the ribbon to officially mark the opening!

Standing up for Taxpayers



One-party rule in our state government continues to put the interests of illegal immigrants and criminals before the needs of hardworking, law-abiding New Yorkers and American citizens. The Democrats in control of state government are now continuing to accept free college tuition applications for illegal immigrants, while closing the Excelsior Scholarship application that is supposed to be available to citizen-students. This comes at a time when many legal residents throughout our state are facing dire financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic and forced closures of many businesses and workplaces. When Senate Democrats voted to hand out free, taxpayer-funded tuition to illegal immigrants, my Senate Republican colleagues and I voted NO. Especially at a time when so many hardworking, middle class New Yorkers are struggling to make ends meet, it's just not fair to ask these very same taxpayers to foot the bill for illegal immigrants to go to college.

Tuition for SUNY schools is due in August and so many legal residents and citizen students are scrambling to figure out how to pay. To close them out of the tuition aid application process while extending them to illegal immigrants is flat-out wrong. New Yorkers shouldn't be funding tuition for illegal immigrants at any time, and it should be shut down permanently as we look to find savings in our budget and limit the economic damage of the current crisis we face.

Kicking Off the Saratoga County Virtual Fair



Tuesday morning, I took part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Saratoga County “Virtual Fair 2020.” I’m pictured above as we cut the ribbon and shown standing with Saratoga County Fair Queen 2019, Madison Wolfe. I also presented President Tammy Ballestero with a NYS Senate Certificate honoring the 179th Fair and recognizing the hard work and ingenuity of the Fair Directors and their tireless efforts to provide a virtual fair. Be sure to check out the Facebook page for the Saratoga County Fair for a listing of events!

Senate Democrats Refuse to Stand Up to Governor Cuomo



It's been over 140 days since the Legislature granted Governor Cuomo expanded emergency executive powers. Since then he's issued 54 Executive Orders, unilaterally changed hundreds of state laws, and mocked anyone who dares to question his unchecked authority. The New York State Legislature must reassert itself, demonstrate independence, and restore checks and balances to our system of government.

For the second time, my Senate Republican Conference colleagues and I proposed an amendment that would end the Governor's expanded powers and restore the Legislature's position as an equal partner in state government. But rather than step up and curb the Governor's unchecked power, Senate Democrats voted "no" – once again refusing to restore critical checks and balances to our government.

At a time when New Yorkers need real leadership, Senate Democrats are again avoiding any responsibility in governing our state. My Senate Republican colleagues and I are ready and willing to lead, so that we can meet the many challenges we face head-on. It's shameful that the Senate Democrats don't share that same commitment.

My “Get New York Back to Work Act”

Spectrum News covered my new bill — the “Get New York Back to Work Act,” Senate Bill S.8800 — that would help protect small businesses, schools, universities, non-profits, and religious organizations and their employees from civil liability related to COVID-19 spread. My bill would safeguard employers and employees who acted in good faith from civil liability, and seeks to move New York forward with a safe, sensible economic reopening and help over a million unemployed New Yorkers get back to work. In addition, my initiative also includes language that ensures that the protections do not cover those who willfully or negligently were responsible for the spread of the deadly pandemic.

You can read the Spectrum News Story on my new legislation at this link: <https://nystateofpolitics.com/state-of-politics/new-york/ny-state-of-politics/2020/07/22/bill-would-limit-liability-for-businesses-during-pandemic>.

You can read more details about my new bill on my Senate webpage by clicking this link: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/daphne-jordan/senator-jordan-introduces-get-new-york-back-work-act-help>.

Proudly Standing with Local Law Enforcement



On Wednesday, I was proud to stand with our Senate Republican Leader, Senator Rob Ortt, my Senate Republican Colleagues, and local law enforcement from across my 43rd Senate District and unveil our new “Protect Those Who Protect Us” legislative package. Local law enforcement members standing beside me during our press conference (pictured above) included Captain John DeRoucha Columbia County Sheriff’s Office; Saratoga County Undersheriff Richard Castle; Captain Jeffrey Brown, Saratoga County Sheriff’s Office; Saratoga Springs Police Department Chief Shane Crooks and Rensselaer County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Kyle

Bourgault. Our “Protect Those Who Protect Us” package was endorsed by the New York State Sheriffs’ Association and would deter violence against law enforcement by increasing penalties on existing crimes and creating new categories of crimes because of new types of attacks.

You can watch a video of my remarks during our press conference by visiting this link on my Senate webpage: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/video/daphne-jordan/senator-daphne-jordan-calls-passage-protect-those-who-protect-us>.

My thanks to Captain DeRoucha; Undersheriff Castle; Captain Brown; Chief Crooks and Deputy Bourgault for taking part in the press conference and for all they and their colleagues do to protect and serve our communities!

Protect Those Who Protect Us



I was proud to join my Senate Republican colleagues on Wednesday in advancing our amendment designed to protect our law enforcement officers during these increasingly dangerous times. Our Protect Those Who Protect Us package would help to deter violence by increasing penalties on existing crimes against law enforcement, while also creating new categories of crimes to address new types of attacks that are taking place.

Unfortunately, the entire Senate Democrat Conference voted "NO" on our amendment, in spite of the fact that our plan has been endorsed by the State Sheriff's Association. The Democrats' unanimous "NO" vote comes at a time when our law enforcement officers are contending with outrageous physical attacks, reckless anti-police rhetoric and dangerous, pro-criminal policies like bail reform and defunding the police. While the Senate Democrats remain focused on their pro-criminal agenda, you can rest assured that I will continue fighting to ensure safe communities, help for crime victims, and support for the courageous law enforcement professionals who put their lives on the line to help keep us safe.

Celebrating the Ribbon Cutting of Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce's New Office



This week saw the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce cut the ribbon to open their new Clifton Park office, which is their second location. Halie Northrop from my office represented me at this happy event (pictured above). Congrats to the Saratoga County Chamber on this great news!

Ribbon Cutting of Habitat for Humanity Housing for NYRA Backstretch Workers



Thursday marked the official ribbon cutting of Habitat for Humanity housing for NYRA backstretch workers and their families for use during the Saratoga meet, with 10 cabins being part of this project. The Racetrack Chaplaincy of America, in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity, and the Pine Grove Community Church, completed renovation of these cottages at Pine Grove for backstretch workers and their families for NYRA. Halie Northrop of my office represented me at Thursday's special event (pictured above). Congratulations to everyone on the realization of this terrific project!

Toga Heritage Grand Reopening Ribbon Cutting



Thursday also was the grand reopening of Toga Heritage in Saratoga Springs. Owner Deborah DePasquale is pictured here in these photos, and Debbie Curto of my office represented me at this event. Best wishes to everyone at Toga Heritage on your grand reopening!

Honoring Hometown Heroes for the 43rd Senate District

Thank you!



Proud to again recognize some terrific #HometownHeroes from my 43rd Senate District for all they're doing to help the community.



The 43rd Senate District is a special place because of the people, small businesses, and community organizations that always make it a priority to help others during times of need. In this week's edition of my Hometown Heroes for the 43rd Senate District, I'm recognizing some of the generous local businesses that showcase the values of community and compassion that are so important during challenging times such as these. For this, my 13th edition of the 43rd Senate District's Hometown Heroes, I proudly recognize Hudson Valley Fisheries, Polysset, and Roohan Realty for all they continue doing to improve our quality of life and be of assistance to others!

Hudson Valley Fisheries

On Fridays, Hudson Valley Fisheries donate 100 lbs. of fresh fillets to Feed the Frontlines. In conjunction with River Fund NY and Tarallucci e Vino in NYC, they have successfully

delivered healthy and delicious meals to thousands of essential workers and food-insecure New Yorkers.

Polysset & Roohan Realty

The Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce is working closely with businesses throughout the County to help other businesses. The Polysset Company Inc. is being recognized for making and donating hand sanitizer for use by local small businesses across Saratoga County. Additionally, Roohan Realty is being recognized for letting the Saratoga County Chamber borrow their box truck to move the hand sanitizer so it can get to those in need.

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THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE