

Senator Brad Hoylman

2017

SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Dear Neighbor:

Thank you for giving me the honor of representing you in the New York State Senate. Summer is a good time to review the legislative session in Albany and update you on issues in our district, including some free events coming up that I'm sponsoring.

Please contact me at **212-633-8052** or hoylman@nysenate.gov if you have any questions, concerns or ideas you want to share. For regular updates, visit my website at <http://hoylman.nysenate.gov>, where you can join my email list.

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 look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

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

Brad Hoylman
State Senator
27th District

2017 Legislative Session Report

The State Legislature's 2017 legislative session sputtered to a finish last month after leaving Albany on June 21 with several important issues unresolved – including the extension of mayoral control of New York City schools. Governor Cuomo was forced to convene an extraordinary session of the Legislature the following week, resulting in mayoral control being renewed for another two years, until June 2019. While Albany made some progress on issues like criminal justice reform in the April budget, the results in the Senate since then have been mostly dismal, with numerous important issues remaining unresolved, including:

Ethics Reform

Both federal and state prosecutors are investigating the State Senate as part of a scandal involving the payment of stipends for leadership positions. The Senate leadership continues to refuse to bring ethics reforms to the floor.

Status – Legislation I sponsor that would limit legislators' outside income, close the so-called "LLC loophole" (which permits Limited Liability Companies to be treated as persons for the purposes of campaign finance), lower campaign contribution limits, and institute public financing of elections, all stalled in committee this year.

Child Sexual Abuse

New York has among the most restrictive statutes of limitations for crimes of child sexual abuse, forcing survivors to file civil and criminal claims by the age of 23 years, which means most survivors do not have time to seek redress in court. My legislation, the Child Victims Act, would significantly raise the statutes of limitations and provide current survivors with a one-year period to revive lapsed claims.

Status - The Senate Majority refused to allow a vote on the Child Victims Act, and broke its own rules by refusing my procedural motions for a committee vote

and public hearing on the bill. Despite their opposition, there was unprecedented momentum for the bill this session. It passed the Assembly with overwhelming bipartisan support under the leadership of Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal and earned the backing of the Governor and Attorney General.

Mass Transit

The mass transit system is central to the economic well-being of the city and region, yet every New Yorker knows that our subways are in crisis. Years of budgetary neglect and deteriorated conditions at Penn Station have led to massive delays and overcrowding.

Status – The state budget exacerbated the funding gap by effectively cutting \$65 million from the MTA's operating budget over the strenuous objections of myself and others in the Democratic Conference. Last month, the Senate confirmed former MTA Chairman Joseph Lhota to return to the job. The Governor has declared a "state of emergency" for the MTA to give him greater discretion.

Trump

While statehouses in California and other states are enacting laws to protect women's health, immigrants and LGBT people, New York continues to fall behind because of the byzantine governing structure of the State Senate, which is controlled by Republicans and a small faction of breakaway Democrats.

Status - Progressive legislation to protect New York from Trump's Washington has been continuously blocked in the Senate, including the following:

- My bill to require presidential candidates to divulge their taxes to qualify for the ballot in New York, which has been filed by legislators in 28 other states (see details inside).



Marching across the Brooklyn Bridge with survivors of child sexual abuse.

- My bill to prohibit New York from providing any assistance to the federal government for the purposes of creating a registry or database of individuals based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or national origin.

- Legislation I introduced in response to the Trump Administration's rollback of Title IX protections for transgender students to strengthen New York's Dignity for All Students Act (DASA).

Even in the face of partisan gridlock, I'm pleased to report that I passed legislation to facilitate the prosecution of white-collar tax criminals, deter persistent sexual abusers, clamp down on illegal trademark counterfeiting, and promote the use of Energy Star-certified appliances that help the environment. There were other victories throughout the session, as well. In late June, I was proud to help confirm the Honorable Paul Feinman as New York's first openly gay judge on the Court of Appeals, a fitting start to Pride weekend.



I distributed copies of the U.S. Constitution at anti-Trump rallies this spring.



Senator Brad Hoylman Presents:

FREE SUMMER MOVIES

No Tickets Required!



Date	Film	Location	Time (PM)
July 19	What's Up Doc?	Pier I, Riverside Park	7
July 19	Arrival	Pier 63	8:30
July 21	Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory	Pier 46	8:30
July 24	Pillow Talk	Bryant Park	5
July 25	Cocktail	Intrepid Museum	7
July 26	Lego Batman Movie	Pier 63	8:30
July 26	The Truman Show	Pier I, Riverside Park	7
July 28	Kubo and the Two Strings	Pier 46	8:30
July 31	The Hustler	Bryant Park	5
August 1	The Martian	Intrepid Museum	7
August 2	Hidden Figures	Pier 63	8:30
August 2	The Muppets Movie	Pier I, Riverside Park	7
August 4	Sing	Pier 46	8:30
August 7	All that Jazz	Bryant Park	5
August 8	Back to the Future	Intrepid Museum	7
August 9	The Big Lebowski	Pier I, Riverside Park	7
August 9	La La Land	Pier 63	8:30
August 11	Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them	Pier 46	8:30
August 14	North by Northwest	Bryant Park	5
August 16	Beetlejuice	Pier I, Riverside Park	7
August 16	Logan	Pier 63	8:30
August 18	The Karate Kid	Pier 46	8:30
August 21	Dirty Dancing	Bryant Park	5

Source: Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment.

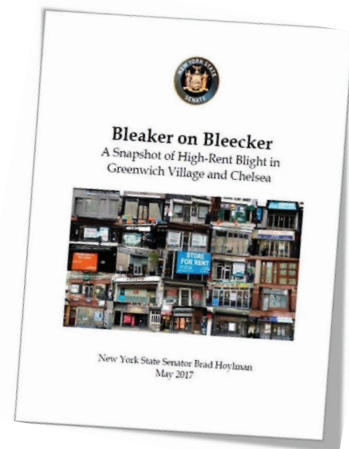
My “T.R.U.M.P. Act” Spreads Across the Country



I’m leading efforts in New York State to uncover Donald Trump’s potential conflicts of interest, including financial gain from real estate developments, tax reform proposals, and ties to the Russian government. Trump’s taxes could provide insight on these matters, which may explain why he is thwarting four decades of presidential tradition by refusing to release his returns. In response, I’ve introduced the Tax Returns Uniformly Made Public (T.R.U.M.P.) Act, which would require all presidential candidates to submit five years of federal tax returns to appear on the ballot in New York State. Since I introduced the T.R.U.M.P. Act, legislators in 28 other states have introduced similar bills.

New Report on Saving Our Mom & Pops

Have you been on Bleecker Street recently? Its vacant storefronts illustrate the problem of “high-rent blight,” which occurs when small businesses are forced out, leaving a vacated space empty for months or years. My new report, *Bleaker on Bleecker: A Snapshot of High-Rent Blight in Greenwich Village and Chelsea*, found an overall vacancy rate of 9.8% along four major commercial corridors in our district, including 18.4% along Bleecker Street. Among my recommendations are collecting vacancy data, creating a registry of historic small businesses, limiting chain store proliferation, and reforming the Commercial Rent Tax. For a copy of the report, call me at 212-633-8052 or download it from my website.



Cracking Down on Slumlords



Rallying with tenant advocates outside Signature Bank’s board meeting in April.

Notorious slumlord Steve Croman has been sentenced to a year in jail, but tenants in his properties continue to be harassed with lawsuits. In May, I called for a stay of Croman-initiated eviction cases. In addition, I’m drafting legislation to combat predatory equity, a practice in which banks lend money to landlords and encourage them to push out rent-regulated tenants. I’ve also joined community groups to demand financial institutions stop financing slumlords like Rafael Toledano, whose company Brookhill Properties has harassed scores of tenants throughout our Senate District and left them without basics like cooking gas and hot water.

SAVE
THE
DATE!

**Senator
Brad Hoylman’s
2017**

Senior Resource Fair

**Tuesday, July 25
2 – 4 PM**

**Theresa Lang Student & Community Center
55 West 13th Street, 2nd Floor
(between 5th and 6th Avenues)**

To RSVP Call (212) 633-8052 or email caroline@bradhoylman.com



Joining advocacy groups to demand faster MTA bus service.

Audit the MTA's Slow Bus Service!

The MTA has been underfunded for decades by Albany, leading to the deteriorating conditions we're witnessing this summer on our subways and buses. In fact, a recent survey by transit advocates (pictured with me) showed that our Senate District has the slowest MTA buses in the city, averaging just 4.7 miles per hour. As a result, I have requested an audit from State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli of MTA bus service across the city, specifically focusing on wait times and efficiency of service. Just as the State Comptroller successfully audited our subway system, his audit of our bus system would help shed light on this problem and ensure the MTA serves its customers better.

Pushing the Port on a New Bus Terminal

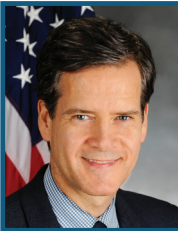
I've long supported community objections to the Port Authority's plans to build a new bus terminal by acquiring local property in Hell's Kitchen through eminent domain or other means. I'm therefore encouraged by news that the Port Authority is finally considering a build-in-place option for the new bus terminal rather than relocating to another site in the area, which will protect the historic and residential fabric of the surrounding neighborhood while permitting much-needed modernization of the terminal. In addition, the Port Authority recently acceded to demands of Congressman Jerrold Nadler, myself, and others to undertake a federal environmental review to examine important issues such as the impact of a new terminal on air quality.



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Inside this issue:

- ✓ 2017 Legislative Session Report
- ✓ Clip-out Guide to Free Summer Movies
- ✓ My Efforts to Release Trump's Taxes
- ✓ Making MTA Buses Move Faster...& more

Senator Brad Hoylman Presents:

SHRED DAY AT PENN SOUTH

Securely disposing of documents containing sensitive or personal information is important for protecting yourself and your family. This is a free shredding service, so please limit your documents to three boxes per household.

Tuesday, September 19, 2017
5:30 – 7:30 pm
26th Street between 8th & 9th Avenues

Call 212-633-8052 to make your appointment!
In conjunction with LionCage