NEW YORK STATE SENATE

60th District Annal Report



- SENATOR SEAN RYAN -NEW YORK'S 60TH STATE SENATE DISTRICT

A Message From Senator Sean Ryan



After serving in the NYS Assembly since 2011, I decided to continue serving the people of Western New York by running for NYS Senate in 2020. I thank the people of the 60th District for putting their trust in me to continue serving our community as a member of the NYS Senate.

When I took office earlier this year, our state faced many challenges as we continued to deal with the pandemic, and the fallout that impacted our economy and every facet of life. We knew the year ahead would be difficult, and I was ready to step up to put forward solutions and deliver real results for the people of the 60th District and Western New York.

The past year has seen the rollout of the vaccine, work to rebuild our economy, and triumph and tragedy. Throughout it all I have approached every day with optimism for the future. I hope this report will provide you with important information about the work I have been doing in the past year, and I wish our community well as we begin 2022.

Sian MRyon

With gratitude,

Sean M. Ryan New York State Senator, 60th District

"Thank you to the people of the 60th District for putting your trust in me to continue serving our community as a member of the NYS Senate"



2021 - Getting Started







As the New Year began, Sean was sworn in as a New York State Senator in a scaled-down ceremony at the Buffalo History Museum, attended by family and staff.



Joining The NYS Senate Majority



In January, Senator Ryan joined the new class of Senators as the 2021 legislative session began in Albany. The new Senate Majority includes representation from across Upstate New York.

Throughout the 2021 legislative session, Senator Ryan worked to pass bills and highlight important priorities such as expanding broadband access, improving funding for libraries, protecting kids from lead paint exposure, and providing new funding opportunities for small businesses.





Vaccine Rollout



One of Senator Ryan's top priorities was ensuring New York State did everything possible to work with the federal government to ensure a smooth rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine. Early on in January and February when vaccine distribution began, Senator Ryan urged the state to quickly fix the vaccination registration website, which had been slow and difficult for New Yorkers to use. Senator Ryan also urged the federal government to increase supply of the vaccine by using the Defense Production Act. As the vaccine rollout ramped up, Senator Ryan visited vaccine sites in WNY and encouraged people to get vaccinated to protect themselves and their communities.



Fighting for WNY

A new Bills stadium must work for Western New York

Sean M.

Ryan

NEW YORK STATE

Tables of a new stadium for the Buffalo Bills have grabbed headlines in Western New York for quite some time now. We have all read the rumblings about possible locations, construction options, and, of ocurse, the price tag. Barring a plan for major renovations to the fourth-oldest stadium in the NFL, it seems

est stadium in the NFL, it seems likely that the time has come to replace it. I have always said that it is immention the Bills remain in West

I have always said that it is imperative the Bills remain in Western New York. We all understand that they are an important part of our community's fabric. In good times and in bad, the team is a constant and significant part of our region's identity. The Bills are a major source of civic pride; especially now that Brandon Beane and Sean McDermott have turned them into a Super Bowl contender. But we cannot let that fact cloud our judg:

ment and force us into a bad long term deal for the people of Western New York. Based on league wide trends, the construction of a new stadium would undoubtedly be funded by a mix of private and public dollars. In the last decade, five publicly owned stadiums have been built, with public funding accounting for about one third of the

stadiums have been built, with public funding accounting for about one-third of the cost, on average. Like Highmark Stadium, a new Bills stadium would no doubt be owned by Eric County. Unlike Highmark Stadium, it needs to bring considerable tangible benefits to the public. It is a well-documented fact that stadi-

It is a well-documented fact that stadiums do not provide the economic benefits



the neighborhood surrounding the 48-year-old stadium disproves the idea that a stadium spurs major economic development.

economic development. If we are to spend any public money on a new stadium, we need to make sure the community is getting guaranteed benefits. One way to do this is by negotiating a community benefits agreement (CBA). With a CBA, we can guarantee that any investment we make results in an economic ripple effect that will offset the cost to taxpayers. A CBA

an economic ripple effect that will offset the cost to taxpayers. A CBA things like family-sustaining wage requirements and local hiring targets for both stadium staff and construction staff. It could also include specific investments to be made into public interest and nonprofit projects in the Western New York Community.

the western yew for commany. As stadium negotiations move forward, I will work with my colleagues in government and community stakeholders to help deliver a blueprint for a CBA that will ensure that the people of Eric County benefit from any investment we make. Western New Yorkers have made it clear how important it is for the Bills to remain in Buffalo. Now it is our duty to ensure that no one takes advantage of our community passion.

A New Bills Stadium

As the process to build a new stadium for the Buffalo Bills moved forward this year, Senator Ryan worked to make sure taxpayers were given a fair deal and ensure that the people of Erie County benefited from any new investment.

Refugee Resettlement

Senator Ryan worked to ensure the federal government resumed refugee admissions, which were slashed during the previous administration. He also secured \$3 million for refugee resettlement agencies across New York, and made sure NYS was prepared for an influx of refugees from Afghanistan.





Fighting for WNY



Scajaquada & Kensington

Throughout the year, Senator Ryan advocated for progress toward the transformation of the Scajaquada and Kensington Corridors in Buffalo. Senator Ryan knows we must fix the historic injustices and highways that have divided our communities for far too long.

Stopping Demolitions

Buffalo has long faced a demolition by neglect crisis – as we saw this year with the collapse of a building downtown. Senator Ryan worked with Preservation Buffalo Niagara, Councilmembers Rivera and Nowakowski, and stakeholders to put together a report on a path forward to ensure historic preservation.





Fighting for WNY



Amigone Legislation

For decades, residents living near the Amigone crematory in Tonawanda have complained about the odor and the soot on their homes and cars. Senator Ryan joined Assemblyman Bill Conrad to pass a law to allow Amigone to move away from the residential neighborhood and fix this problem for good.

Kenilworth Fire Company

Senator Ryan also joined Assemblyman Conrad to pass a law to allow the Kenilworth Volunteer Fire Company in Tonawanda to establish their first Benevolent Association.





Fighting for WNY



CWA Strike

Senator Ryan was proud to join CWA workers at Mercy Hospital in their fight for safer working conditions. It wasn't easy, but the actions of hundreds of dedicated healthcare heroes has boosted pay and improved safety for workers & patients. A grateful community thanks them.

Reimagining Grant Street

This year, Senator Ryan announced progress for the Reimagining Grant Street program. He joined Assemblyman Jon Rivera, Councilmember Rivera, GObike Buffalo, and Preservation Buffalo Niagara to unveil new design concepts for this project that will create a more accessible Grant Street corridor.





Working To Make A Difference



THANK YOU, SENATOR RYAN For your leadership in sponsoring legislation ensuring landlords' property insurance covers tenant lead poisoning costs (S.3079 / A.7488) – critical to ending childhood lead poisoning in New York!

Combating Lead Poisoning

Lead poisoning remains a major crisis for children and families. 90% of homes in Buffalo and other cities around NY have leadbased paint or service lines. The medical costs of lead exposure are high. Senator Ryan held a virtual legislative roundtable discussion to hear from a diverse panel of experts and stakeholders about his legislation S.3079, which prohibits the exclusion of coverage for losses or damages caused by exposure to lead-based paint. If signed into law, his legislation would give families much needed relief.

- SENATOR SEAN RYAN -

Working To Make A Difference



COVID-19 Economic Relief

Senator Ryan and the Senate Majority went to work quickly to address the impact of the pandemic and deliver much needed relief to New Yorkers. Thankfully the federal government delivered significant aid to New York and the nation with the American Rescue Plan. In April, the Senate Majority worked to ensure our state budget utilized federal aid by allocating \$2.4 billion for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, \$500 million for Commercial Rent Relief, \$1 billion in small business assistance, \$600 million in homeowner assistance, \$350 million in transportation infrastructure investments, \$29.5 billion for New York schools, and \$3.5 million in funding for upstate legal services for low-income families.

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Working To Make A Difference



Expanding Broadband

A high-speed internet connection today is just as important as our traditional utilities like water and electricity. Senator Ryan successfully pushed to include in the 2021-2022 state budget a provision to map broadband access across New York and \$1 million in funding to make the mapping a reality. Senator Ryan also joined Assemblymember Nily Rozic for a tour of the North Country to hold roundtables to discuss their legislation that would help to overcome our challenges to ensuring universal broadband access. The New York Broadband Resiliency, Public Safety, and Quality Act would make broadband a utility in New York to ensure oversight and accountability and truly expand access.

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Working To Make A Difference



Red Jacket Peace Medal

Senator Ryan was honored to join officials from The Seneca Nation and the Buffalo History Museum for the return of the Red Jacket Peace Medal after working with both parties to help facilitate this important repatriation. The medal has been in the care of the Buffalo History Museum since 1895, and this year it was returned home to its rightful owners, the people of the Seneca Nation. The repatriation of Indigenous artifacts is an important process in building strong, meaningful, and peaceful relationships between Native American territories and their surrounding communities. The return of the Peace Medal – an explicit symbol of this relationship – is an especially significant act, and a momentous occasion here in Western New York.

- SENATOR SEAN RYAN -

Supporting New York's Libraries



Library Funding and Legislation

Senator Ryan is proud to serve as the Chair of the New York State Senate Libraries Committee. New York State is home to a total of 73 library systems: 23 public library systems, nine reference and research library systems, and 41 school library systems. There are 755 public libraries statewide. Six of the 40 largest libraries in the United States are in New York, more than any other state. In the 2021-22 State Budget, Senator Ryan worked to secure \$34 million for Capital Projects, a \$20 million increase from the previous year. Senator Ryan also passed several bills that will increase state funding to libraries, including S.6511 and S.5753, both of which were signed by the Governor. These bills streamline and modernize library aid formulas and boost funding for smaller libraries.

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Supporting New York's Libraries

Outstanding Librarian Award Winners



Salamah Adjoua-Mullen Northern Parkway School ead Library Media Specialist Uniondale, NY



Suffolk County Community College ssistant Professor of Library Services



Josselyn Borowiec Hollwedel Memorial Librar Director



Jonathan Pryer Sayville Library Head of Outreach Service Savville, NY



Grace Frenzel Livonia Public Library Youth Services Coordinate Livonia, NY



Susan Rohrmeier Clinton Community Library Assistant Program Coordinato Rhinebeck, NY



Scott Jarzombek Albany Public Library Director Albany, NY



Heather Turner bius Pompey School District 6-12 Teacher Librarian Fabius, NY



Maureen McLaughlin Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Assistant Deputy Director Buffalo NY



Amy Vilz (posthumous) University at Buffalo University Archivist Buffalo, NY

Honoring Outstanding Librarians

As the Chair of the New York State Senate Libraries Committee, Senator Ryan marked National Library Week this year by honoring Outstanding Librarian Award winners from across New York. We have many amazing librarians in every corner of our state who go above and beyond to serve their communities. Congratulations to all of this year's award winners!

- SENATOR SEAN RYAN -

Supporting New York's Libraries



Statewide Library Tour

In December, Senator Ryan joined NYS Assembly Libraries Chair, Assemblymember Kimberly Jean-Pierre for a tour of libraries across New York State. As Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Library Committees, they wanted to hear from local libraries about the work they're doing. They kicked-off our tour at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, and visited libraries in Rochester, Syracuse, Albany, Westchester, NYC, and Long Island. Our state is home to many truly incredible libraries!

- SENATOR SEAN RYAN -

Delivering Funding for WNY



Education Funding

Senator Ryan worked to deliver much-needed education funding to schools in Western New York. The state budget included a \$90.7 million increase in aid for 60th Senate District schools, \$29.5 billion total for New York schools, and \$1.4 billion to close the state's Foundation Aid gap

Infrastructure Funding

Investing in infrastructure is a smart way to create good-paying jobs and move our economy forward. The state budget included \$350 million in transportation infrastructure investments.





Delivering Funding for WNY



Legal Services Funding

It has always been tough for lower-income folks to navigate our legal system. With housing and unemployment issues, the pandemic has made the problem worse. Joined Senator Kennedy and agencies to announce \$3.5M in new funds for upstate legal services to help those who need it most.

340-B Funding

In the state budget, Senator Ryan worked to pass a two-year delay for the 340-B Medicaid prescription drug benefit carveout. This will greatly benefit Federally Qualified Health Centers such as Evergreen Heath and Jericho Road Community Health Center.





Delivering Funding for WNY



Gun Violence Prevention Funding

Senator Ryan joined his colleagues to announce that they secured over \$200,000 in state funding to support the important work of groups who are working hard to help reduce gun violence in our community. It will take a multifaceted approach to address this issue and save lives.

Elmwood Village Playground

A new playground will soon be coming to Buffalo's Elmwood Village! Senator Ryan secured funding and announced the design for the new playground this year.





Delivering Funding for WNY



Grant Amherst Streetscape Improvements

Senator Ryan joined the Grant Amherst Business Association to unveil streetscape upgrades to Amherst Street. New steel trash receptacles and monuments featuring historic images of the neighborhood, were funded by the Better Buffalo Fund.

New Fire Truck for Hamburg

Senator Ryan secured funding for the Village of Hamburg to purchase a new fire truck, which was delivered earlier this year.





The Senate Majority - Working for WNY



Environmental Funding

Senator Ryan worked with his colleagues in the Senate Majority to deliver muchneeded environmental funding to help combat climate change. This includes a \$3 billion Environmental Bond Act and \$300 million for the Environmental Protection Fund.

Middle-Class Tax Cuts

Senator Ryan and the Senate Majority worked to pass a budget that included a \$400 million middle-class tax cut to help families across New York.





The Senate Majority - Working for WNY



Property Tax Relief

Senator Ryan worked with his colleagues in the Senate Majority to deliver muchneeded property tax relief with \$440 million dedicated to a new program in the state budget.

Expanding Early Voting

Our right to vote is sacred, and Senator Ryan and the Senate Majority worked this year to improve access to the ballot box by expanding early voting in New York and requiring counties to offer more polling locations during the nine-day early voting period for general, primary, and special elections.





The Senate Majority - Working for WNY



Restoring AIM for Local Governments

Senator Ryan worked with his colleagues in the Senate Majority to fully restore Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) funding for local governments in this year's state budget.

Nursing Home Reforms

The Senate Democratic Majority passed legislation to better support and protect nursing home residents. The legislative package established a direct patient care spending ratio for nursing homes, create a taskforce to reimagine the delivery of long-term care, and much more.





Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



Shirley Chisholm Statue

Senator Ryan worked with a steering committee to secure funding for a statue of Shirley Chisholm, who lived in WNY in her later years and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo. The statue will be finished by next year and will be a great tribute to a trailblazing icon.

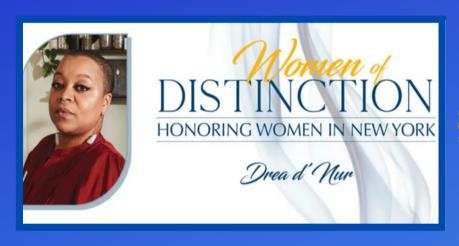
Daniel Barry Legal Aid Bureau

Daniel Barry joined the Legal Aid Bureau of in 1962 - just a year before the Supreme Court ensured the right to legal counsel in Gideon v. Wainwright. He spent his career ensuring justice for all. Senator Ryan joined Assemblymember Karen McMahon to celebrate his retirement and honor him with a NYS resolution.





Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



Women of Distinction

As part of the NY Senate's annual Women of Distinction Awards, Senator Ryan honored Drea d'Nur, founder of Western New York's first safe, organic, and halal food pantry, Feed Buffalo, which ensures that all people can eat without compromising their faith and dietary restrictions. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she served hundreds of quarantined families who had little to no food.

Veterans' Hall of Fame

Senator Ryan selected Wayne Baumgartner as his nominee to be inducted into the NY Senate Veterans Hall of Fame. Mr. Baumgartner served in the United States Air Force during Vietnam, achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant, and has dedicated his life to serving the Tonawanda Community.





WAYNE BAUMGARTNER



Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



Frank Gourmet Hot Dogs

During the pandemic, Frank Gourmet Hot Dogs has helped to feed our essential workers - and they were recently named one of Yelp's top 100 places to eat! Senator Ryan visited owners Frank and Paul Tripi to thank them for doing great work in the community - and serving up amazing hot dogs and fries.

What's Pop-In'

Senator Ryan visited David and Stefan at What's Pop-In' Gourmet Popcorn to check out their new location on Niagara Street. Great popcorn and a great local business!





Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



Little Salmon

Looking for sustainable products? You have to check out Buffalo's first zero-waste store, Little Salmon! Senator Ryan visited owners Tracey Wei and Michael Mahoney at 230 Lexington Ave. in the Elmwood Village to welcome them to the neighborhood. Their store is a smart concept that is great for our planet.

Chiavetta's

Nothing says summertime in Western New York quite like Chiavetta's BBQ! Senator Ryan visited their catering center in Brant to see how the magic comes together.





Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



Campus Wheel Works

Campus Wheel Works has been a staple of the Elmwood Village for the past 25 years, and now they have expanded with a second location to serve the Niagara Street and Black Rock neighborhoods. Senator Ryan visited their new location for a tour.

Mister Sizzle's

Save some time grilling up burgers and stop by Mister Sizzle's on Buffalo's West Side! Senator Ryan visited owners Chris and Casey to welcome them to the neighborhood and congratulate them on a great new business.





Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



New York State Senate Liberty Medal

Dr. Myron & Joyce Glick founded Jericho Road Community Health Center – a cornerstone of the West Side – 25 years ago. They are two of the most selfless people in the world. Jericho Road provides health and other services to thousands of people in need. Senator Ryan honored them with the NY Senate Liberty Medal, the NY Senate's highest civilian honor.

- SENATOR SEAN RYAN -NEW YORK'S 60TH STATE SENATE DISTRICT

Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



Commendation Award Mike Radomski

Senator Ryan presented a New York State Senate Commendation Award to Mike Radomski, founder of the Western New York Hiking Challenge, for his work to raise money for local environmental groups and promote healthy outdoor recreation in Western New York.

Commendation Award Tony George

Senator Ryan visited Lake Shore High School to present a New York State Senate Commendation Award to Lake Shore teacher Tony George, founder of Bald for Bucks. George's work to found Bald for Bucks has helped raise money and increase awareness for breast cancer research and treatment in Western New York for the last 19 years.





Recognizing Outstanding Individuals



Commendation Award Mary Jean Jakubowski

Senator Ryan was proud to honor Mary Jean Jakubowski, who retired this year as Director of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, with the NY Senate Commendation Award. Mary Jean led our library system with dedication and creativity. Throughout the pandemic she and her team worked hard to help the community.

Honoring Eagle Scouts

Senator Ryan joined Assemblymember Bill Conrad to honor the newest Eagle Scouts from various troops in Kenmore and celebrate their incredible accomplishments





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan joined the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Carousel at Canalside!

Senator Ryan toured the Margery Gallogly Nature Sanctuary on Grand Island.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan joined Congressman Higgins, Senator Kennedy, and Labor Secretary Marty Walsh to break ground on the NFTA's new electric bus charging facility.

Senator Ryan joined Senator Kennedy to promote the New York Craft Brewers Festival at Canalside.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan joined the Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY and his colleagues to break ground on the new Hispanic Heritage Institute on Niagara Street in Buffalo.

Senator Ryan joined his colleagues to distribute turkeys for families to enjoy on Thanksgiving.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan joined Governor Kathy Hochul to march in the annual Buffalo Labor Day Parade.

Senator Ryan visited Armor Elementary in Hamburg to welcome kids back to school in September.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan joined NY Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Senator Michelle Hinchey to tour farms in WNY.

Senator Ryan joined the ribbon cutting for the new West Side Community Services Food Pantry in Buffalo.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan visited the annual Taste of Orchard Park.

Senator Ryan joined local officials and Assemblymember Bill Conrad for the groundbreaking of a new school construction project in Tonawanda.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan visited the Wall that Heals traveling Vietnam Memorial in Tonawanda.

Senator Ryan joined local officials to unveil plans for The Riverline Project along Buffalo's waterfront.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan joined officials from Evans to celebrate the town's bicentennial.

Senator Ryan joined officials from the Albright-Knox for a toppingout ceremony for the new AKG Museum.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan visited the Orchard Park Public Library for outdoor story time.

Senator Ryan toured the Frank Lloyd Wright Graycliff Estate in Derby.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new D'Youville Health Professions Hub.

Senator Ryan toured Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin House in Buffalo.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan visited the new Hamburg Village Community Market in Hamburg.

Senator Ryan attended the first Town of Hamburg Pride Celebration.





Celebrating Our Community



Senator Ryan attended the unveiling of the DeGlopper memorial statue on Grand Island.

Senator Ryan joined local officials to tour the historic Orchard Park Railroad Depot.







"Thank you! I wish you and your family all the best in 2022." -Sun MRyon

> - SENATOR SEAN RYAN -NEW YORK'S 60TH STATE SENATE DISTRICT