



February 2, 2024

Greetings –

There was a lot of activity again this week in Albany. In Brooklyn, we hosted a highly successful “DOB in Your Neighborhood” event in our office. Highlights are below.

Launch of the New York Campaign for Early Literacy

On Tuesday [I joined with legislative colleagues and advocates to launch the New York Campaign for Early Literacy](#). The Campaign is made up of nearly 80 organizations and individuals committed to improving reading outcomes for children in New York State by seeing New York adopt practices aligned with the science of reading. New York is one of only a handful of states that have yet to enact any laws related to the science of reading. According to the results of the State’s 2022 assessment test, less than half of the State’s third graders were reading at grade level.



My bill, the Right to Read ([A.2897/S.5480](#)), which would establish policy changes that promote the use of evidence-based practices for all kindergarten through fifth grade students in schools throughout that state, is at the center of the campaign. In her FY 25 Executive Budget, Governor Hochul included elements of the Right to Read legislation but a more comprehensive approach is needed.

Dyslexia Diagnosis Access Act passes the Assembly for the second consecutive year

My bill, the “Dyslexia Diagnosis Access Act” ([A.2898/S.5481](#)) passed the Assembly unanimously this week for the second consecutive year. This legislation would require that private health insurance policies pay for neuropsychological exams for the purpose of diagnosing dyslexia. Most medical insurance companies do not reimburse for this and schools typically only offer limited assessments. Neuropsychological exams are often administered over the course of two days and currently may cost in excess of six thousand dollars making them unaffordable to many families. Now it is time for the State Senate to pass this essential legislation.

Oversight on Atlantic Yards at the joint Assembly/Senate Budget Hearings

At the Joint Budget Hearing on Economic Development, [I questioned Empire State Development Commissioner Hope Knight about the future of the Atlantic Yards development project](#). The project, which was already behind in fulfilling promises regarding housing and open space, has been thrown into further uncertainty with the current developer defaulting on the loans taken to finance the work. I am particularly concerned about the over 870 units of affordable housing that were part of the project plan but as of yet have not been built. I will continue to work with my colleagues and community members to ensure that there is a real plan with transparency and accountability to deliver much needed public benefits.

DOB at my District Office Event

This week we had a representative from the NYC Department of Buildings in my district office to assist constituents directly with DOB related issues. We had a full day of appointments and Crystal from DOB did a great job assisting. We plan to do these events regularly, so keep an eye out for future events if you have any DOB related questions.



Ribbon Cutting at the Brooklyn Museum

Over the weekend I had the pleasure of joining the Brooklyn Museum for the opening celebration of the Toby Devan Lewis Education Center. The wonderful new 9,500-squarefoot space will allow the Museum to better serve the more than 50,000 visitors who participate in their education programs each year.



If you have any concerns about any legislative or community issue, please email me at carrollr@nyassembly.gov or call (718) 788-7221.

-Bobby

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