



Dear Constituent,

The year 2024 is upon us! I hope it will be a peaceful, prosperous and healthy year for all of us, and I will continue to do what I can to make that a reality for residents of the 95th Assembly District. Below, you'll find a wrap-up of my first year in office, a podcast update, upcoming events for the start of 2024, and new laws going into effect in January.

My office will be closed tomorrow (Monday, January 1) in observance of New Year's Day, and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2. See you in the new year!

Best,

Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg

## 2023 By The Numbers



I had a very productive first year in office, passing more prime-sponsored legislation than any other first-year member of the Assembly and establishing two offices that help me meet with, listen to and support constituents. Here's what we accomplished, by the numbers:

- **Eight** prime-sponsored bills signed into law
- **51** co-sponsored bills signed into law
- **Five** town halls
- **30** mobile office hours sessions
- More than **650** meetings with advocates and stakeholders
- More than **150** constituent cases resolved
- **2110** certificates of merit, citations and proclamations celebrating the accomplishments of district residents
- **108** letters of support for grant applications and other initiatives

In addition to those letters, I also advocated for nearly **\$538 million** in funds that were included in the final state budget, funding a variety of organizations and state initiatives benefiting residents in AD95 and throughout the state. So far, I have also directly distributed more than **\$2 million** in grant funding through [my office](#) and that of [Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie](#).

To help guide my work, my office paid close attention to what residents had to say about the issues. We received more than **12,000** comments from constituents on issues and legislation. The top issue we received phone calls about were roads, particularly the state of Route 9A in Ossining and Briarcliff. I have been working with colleagues and [with NYSDOT Region 8](#) to ensure our roads get the attention and resources they need; be on the lookout for a separate message with more information about that. The top concern people wrote to us about was Indian Point, urging a stop to the discharge of nuclear waste into the Hudson River, which we achieved with the signing of the Save the Hudson legislation.

Your opinions matter. In addition to the surveys that my office issues from time to time, the best way to let us know your opinions is to use the [contact form](#) on my web page. I will also be hosting seven town halls as the new legislative session gets underway; read on for more information about those events.

## Upcoming Events

### Environmental Town Hall Thursday, January 25

I will be hosting a town hall dedicated exclusively to environmental issues on **Thursday, January 25** at the Ossining Public Library. Join us at 7 PM to learn more about climate action at the state level, including answers to common questions about recent legislation. This is also an opportunity to share your thoughts about environmental initiatives and legislation as the legislative session gets underway. I hope you can attend.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN DANA LEVENBERG



## ENVIRONMENTAL TOWN HALL

Learn more about New York State's commitment to climate action, including answers to common questions. Share your thoughts on state environmental legislation and initiatives with Assemblywoman Levenberg as the legislative session gets underway.

**Thursday, January 25 at 7:00 PM**  
Ossining Public Library  
53 Croton Avenue, Ossining, NY 10562

(914) 941-1111 | [levenbergd@nyassembly.gov](mailto:levenbergd@nyassembly.gov)

   @AMDanaLevenberg

### Additional Town Halls

I will also be hosting six open-topic town halls in February. Here are the dates, times and locations; save the date for the time and place most convenient for you.

**Thursday, February 8:** The Field Library (4 Nelson Ave, Peekskill) at 7 PM

**Saturday, February 10:**

- Hendrick Hudson Free Library (185 Kings Ferry Rd, Montrose) at 10 AM
- Croton Free Library (171 Cleveland Dr., Croton) at 1 PM

**Thursday, February 15:** Virtual session at 7 PM. Register to receive the link at <https://bit.ly/February15TownHall>.

**Saturday, February 17:**

- Butterfield Library (10 Morris Ave., Cold Spring) at 10 AM

- John C. Hart Library (1130 E. Main St., Shrub Oak) at 1 PM

### **New Art Exhibition Opening January 2, 2024**

As many of you already know, my district office hosts a rotating selection of art from local artists. The next exhibition, *Radiating Tranquility*, opens on **Tuesday, January 2** and runs through June 13. A meditation on peace and light, this exhibition displays works from student artists which embody themes of peace, serenity, illumination, and radiance. *Radiating Tranquility* celebrates the power of art to provide solace in difficult times and honors the voices and talents of local youth. To set up a time to see the exhibition, please call (914) 941-1111.



### **New Podcast Episode**

The third episode of my monthly podcast, [Building Healthy Communities](#), is available now on my YouTube channel. There has been much discussion over the past few years regarding policing in our communities, and the treatment of people experiencing mental health crises has emerged as an important consideration. For this episode, I spoke with Kevin Sylvester, former Chief of the Ossining Police Department, about Ossining's Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT), which embeds professionals trained to respond to mental health issues in the police department. The establishment of the MCRT is due in part to the advocacy of Chief Sylvester, and what he has to say about it is very important. [Click here to listen.](#)

### **New Laws for January 2024**

New state laws go into effect every month. Here is a list of laws going into effect in January 2024:

Effective Date	Chapter	Summary
1/1/2024	Ch. 147 of 2019 <a href="#">S.5685</a> <a href="#">A.4853-A</a>	Enacts the final phase of Brianna's Law, requiring all operators of mechanically propelled vessels to complete a boating safety course.
1/1/2024	Ch. 505 of 2021 <a href="#">S.841-A</a> <a href="#">A.6177-A</a>	Requires petroleum bulk storage facilities to paint tanks white or beige/cream to reduce emissions of air pollutants.
1/1/2024	Ch. 56 of 2023, Part S <a href="#">A.3006-C</a> <a href="#">S.4006-C</a>	Increases the minimum wage to \$16 an hour in New York City and Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk counties and to \$15 an hour in the rest of the state.
1/1/2024	Ch. 56 of 2023, Part BB <a href="#">A.3006-C</a> <a href="#">S.4006-C</a>	Increases the rent subsidy payable to a foster child living independently from \$300 per month to \$725 per month.
1/1/2024	Ch. 56 of 2023, Part VV, Subpart C <a href="#">A.3006-C</a> <a href="#">S.4006-C</a>	Requires the chief administrator of the courts to issue regular public reports on the demographics and charges of pretrial commitments at local correctional facilities.
1/1/2024	Ch. 57 of 2023, Part II, Subpart A <a href="#">S.4007-C</a> <a href="#">A.3007-C</a>	Provides for insurance coverage for behavioral health services.

1/1/2024	Ch. 57 of 2023, Part MM <a href="#">S.4007-C</a> <a href="#">A.3007-C</a>	Clarifies the definition of a clinical peer reviewer for substance use disorders and mental health evaluations.
1/1/2024	Ch. 57 of 2023, Part NN <a href="#">S.4007-C</a> <a href="#">A.3007-C</a>	Provides for electronic visit verification for personal care and home health providers.
1/1/2024	Ch. 58 of 2023, Part M <a href="#">S.4008-C</a> <a href="#">A.3008-C</a>	Changes the retention percentage of certain motor vehicle related fees collected by county clerks from 12.7 percent to 10.75 percent.
1/1/2024	Ch. 59 of 2023, Part GG <a href="#">A.3009-C</a> <a href="#">S.4009-C</a>	Establishes a permanent 30% metropolitan transportation business tax surcharge.
1/1/2024	Ch. 838 of 2022 <a href="#">A.187</a> <a href="#">S.431-A</a> Ch. 114 of 2023 <a href="#">S.1331</a> <a href="#">A.4015</a>	Provides for the synchronization of multiple prescriptions for recipients of medical assistance by allowing partial refills.

1/1/2024	Ch. 474 of 2023, Sec. 9  <a href="#">A.7690</a>  <a href="#">S.7550</a>	Requires the cure affirmation for an absentee ballot to be received by the board of elections within seven days.
1/1/2024	Ch. 481 of 2023  <a href="#">S.7394-A</a>  <a href="#">A.7632-A</a>	Establishes the New York Early Mail Voter Act, authorizing registered voters to obtain early mail voting ballots through application to the board of elections; requires the state board of elections to establish and maintain an electronic early mail ballot application transmittal system through which voters may apply for an early mail ballot online.
1/1/2024	Ch. 511 of 2023  <a href="#">A.5948</a>  <a href="#">S.6124</a>	Requires a whistle to be carried on all vessels, rowboats, canoes and kayaks; and requires fire extinguishers and use of engine cut-off switches on certain vessels.
1/1/2024	Ch. 521 of 2023  <a href="#">A.6480</a>  <a href="#">S.6482-A</a>	Allows an individual with disabilities or a disabled veteran to hold full-time or part-time positions for purposes of eligibility for recruitment for state employment.
1/1/2024	Ch. 559 of 2023  <a href="#">A.5772</a>  <a href="#">S.5162</a>	Allows an affirmation by any person, wherever made, subscribed and affirmed by that person to be true under the penalties of perjury, to be used in a civil action in New York in lieu of and with the same force and effect as an affidavit.
1/1/2024	Ch. 566 of 2023  <a href="#">A.5994-B</a>  <a href="#">S.536-A</a>	Prohibits clauses restricting research about the health consequences of e-cigarettes and restricts the advertisement and promotion of electronic cigarettes.

1/1/2024	Ch. 591 of 2023 <a href="#">S.5621-B</a> <a href="#">A.2873-B</a>	Requires reporting of certain digital assets on the annual statement of financial disclosure filed with the Legislative Ethics Commission or the Joint Commission On Public Ethics.
1/1/2024	Ch. 620 of 2023 <a href="#">S.454-A</a> <a href="#">A.3116-A</a>	Directs counties to contact a veterans' organization to provide for the disposition of the unclaimed remains of a deceased veteran when such veteran has no next of kin or other person designated to provide for the disposition of his or her remains; develops an application process for veterans' organizations to receive reimbursement of costs associated with such funeral and burial services for indigent veterans.
1/1/2024	Ch. 655 of 2023 <a href="#">S.2330-B</a> <a href="#">A.345-C</a>	Requires the Department of Financial Services to make public any rate filing or application submitted by long term care insurance carriers; requires certain notices be provided to policyholders and certificate holders regarding premium rate increases.
1/1/2024	Ch. 683 of 2023 <a href="#">A.783</a> <a href="#">S.2630</a>	Authorizes the Department of Environmental Conservation to issue a certified nuisance wildlife specialist a deer cull permit after a review of the site-specific deer management plan and upon a finding that deer have become a nuisance, destructive to public or private property or a threat to public health or welfare.
1/1/2024	Ch. 758 of 2023 <a href="#">S.2599</a> <a href="#">A.133</a>	Establishes a dyslexia and dysgraphia task force and implements the findings of such task force.



1/1/2024	Ch. 763 of 2023 <a href="#">S.4234-A</a> <a href="#">A.4055-A</a>	Prohibits utility corporations from charging customers for gas or electric service which was rendered more than two months prior to the mailing of the first bill to the customer; requires utility corporations to provide a two-year history of charges in their bills.
1/1/2024	Ch. 773 of 2023 <a href="#">S.7537</a> <a href="#">A.7761</a>	Establishes the village incorporation commission to evaluate and make decisions regarding village incorporation elections.
1/4/2024	Ch. 351 of 2023 <a href="#">A.1120</a> <a href="#">S.1746</a>	Provides for the development and implementation of programs to prevent workplace violence in public schools.
1/7/2024	Ch. 707 of 2023 <a href="#">S.5775</a> <a href="#">A.5639</a>	Requires certain trains and locomotives to have a minimum crew size of two people.
1/11/2024	Ch. 526 of 2023 <a href="#">S.3567-A</a> <a href="#">A.6050-A</a>	Permits the sale or promotional gifting of certain complementary products for wine and spirits by retail licensees.
1/12/2024	Ch. 369 of 2023 <a href="#">S.1902-A</a> <a href="#">A.1245-A</a>	Requires notice to unemployment applicants of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants And Children (WIC).

1/21/2024	Ch. 446 of 2022, Sec. 10  <a href="#">S.7020-B</a>  <a href="#">A.10162-A</a>	Establishes requirements for licensure as a histotechnologist.
1/21/2024	Ch. 537 of 2023  <a href="#">S.5915</a>  <a href="#">A.5347</a>	Requires the Office For The Prevention Of Domestic Violence to distribute informational materials on recognizing economic abuse and the support available to survivors.
1/21/2024	Ch. 753 of 2023  <a href="#">S.582</a>  <a href="#">A.6798</a>	Prohibits the sale of sodium nitrate and sodium nitrite to any person under the age of twenty-one.
1/23/2024	Ch. 584 of 2023  <a href="#">S.2683-A</a>  <a href="#">A.4599-A</a>	Allows charities to use a single table of unisex rates and a simplified calculation for maximum allowable rates for charitable annuities.