

Assemblymember

DAVID I. WEPRIN



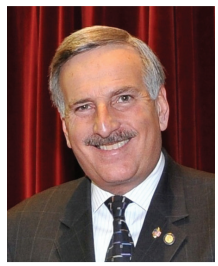
Reports to the Community

Summer 2017

Serving the partial or entire communities of:

Briarwood, Bellerose, Bellerose Manor, Fresh Meadows, Glen Oaks, Hillcrest, Hollis Hills, Holliswood, Jamaica Estates, Jamaica Hills, Oakland Gardens, Queens Village, Richmond Hill, South Richmond Hill, and Utopia.

A Message From **DAVID I. WEPRIN**



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a new and exciting summer season in our always evolving World's borough.

I am pleased to inform you that I was appointed Chairman of the NY State Assembly Committee on Correction by Speaker Heastie in January. Serving as Chair has given me the opportunity to learn about the challenges faced by state correction employees and the complexities that our state correctional facilities face every single day.

I was also recently elected by my bipartisan colleagues in over 40 states across the country as Co-President of The National Association of Jewish Legislators. My role with the NAJL is aimed at helping strengthen communities nationwide by discussing ways to bring services and resources to our constituents.

As the legislative season in Albany comes to a close in a few short weeks, I would like to update you on some of the accomplishments we had in this year's new budget.

Among the longstanding missions that we have accomplished, we raised the age of adult criminal responsibility in the state and have now joined the 48 other states that have implemented this law. We have also built on the funding commitment from last year for affordable housing across the state. A \$2.5 billion in water quality improvement measures was also implemented to help protect the environmental health of New Yorkers.

As your local elected state Assemblymember, my priority is to advocate and obtain all the resources that I possibly can to make our communities strong and vibrant.

At the local level, I am glad to report that my office successfully addressed the problems surrounding a home in Jamaica Estates that was occupied by a disruptive fraternity group. After making contact with the President of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, I was informed that the occupants left the premises and will no longer occupy the home.

None of these accomplishments however, would be possible without the eyes and ears of neighbors and constituents like you.

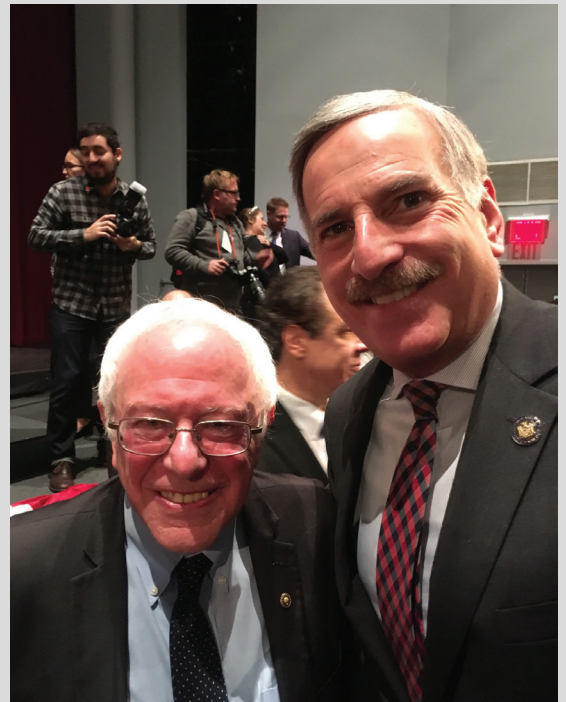
I want to thank you for a successful season in Albany so far and if you have not done so already, encourage you to contact my office for any quality of life matter that you confront.

Have a Great Summer!

Yours sincerely,

David I. Weprin
Member of Assembly

2017 LEGISLATIVE BUDGET



The 2017-18 state budget provides \$2.5 billion for affordable housing and anti-homelessness initiatives. Included in the budget is \$1 billion for supportive housing to construct 6,000 or more units statewide, including \$50 million in operating aid; \$472 million for the Multifamily New Construction Program and \$125 million for the Senior Housing Program.

New York State's 2017-2018 final budget also invests in our veterans' well-being. The Assembly rejected the Executive's budget cuts from the defense fund and provided a \$675,000 Veterans' Services Block Grant.

For our students, the State will now provide tuition-free assistance at SUNY and CUNY schools through the Excelsior Scholarship. For the 2017-18 academic year, the federal household adjusted gross income can total up to \$100,000 to be eligible for any students family. For 2018-19, that amount increases to \$110,000, and beginning in 2019-20 and beyond, a student's family adjusted gross income can total up to \$125,000. Assemblymember Weprin was joined by Governor Andrew Cuomo and U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders at LaGuardia Community College for the Excelsior Scholarship announcement in January.

DISTRICT OFFICES: 185-06 Union Turnpike, Fresh Meadows, NY 11366 • 718-454-3027
111-12 Atlantic Avenue, #5, Richmond Hill, NY 11419 • 718-805-2381
Email: weprind@nyassembly.gov • Website: <http://nyassembly.gov/mem/David-I-Weprin>

Assemblymember Weprin



Assemblymember Weprin stood before a massive crowd on February 26th to rally against the proposed reduction in visitation days for inmates at New York State's maximum-security prisons. The right to visitation seven days a week was restored in the 2017 Executive Budget.



Assemblymember Weprin attends the 18th Annual New York City Lunar New Year Parade and Festival in February. He is accompanied by U.S. Senator Charles Schumer and Yen Chou.



Assemblymember Weprin marched on the St. Patrick's Day Parade route on March 17th. He was joined by the Archbishop of New York, Timothy M. Dolan. The parade is attended by thousands of New Yorkers every year to commemorate Ireland's patron Saint Patrick.



On February 10th, Assemblymember Weprin joined worshippers at the Darus Salam Masjid during Jum'u'ah prayer to ease tensions amongst the Muslim community after Executive Order 13769 was signed. The order dropped the number of refugees to be admitted into the United States in 2017 to 50,000, suspended the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) for 120 days, suspended the entry of Syrian refugees indefinitely and directed some cabinet secretaries to suspend entry of those whose countries do not meet adjudication standards under U.S. immigration law for 90 days. The order included exceptions on a case-by-case basis. Homeland Security lists these countries as Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.



On March 3rd, Assemblymember Weprin advocated for monies in the state budget to go to nonprofit organizations that provide direct care services. As a result, Weprin announced the state budget would provide \$14 million in 2017-18 and \$146 million in 2018-19 to help organizations increase wages and help maintain worker retention rates.

prin in the Community

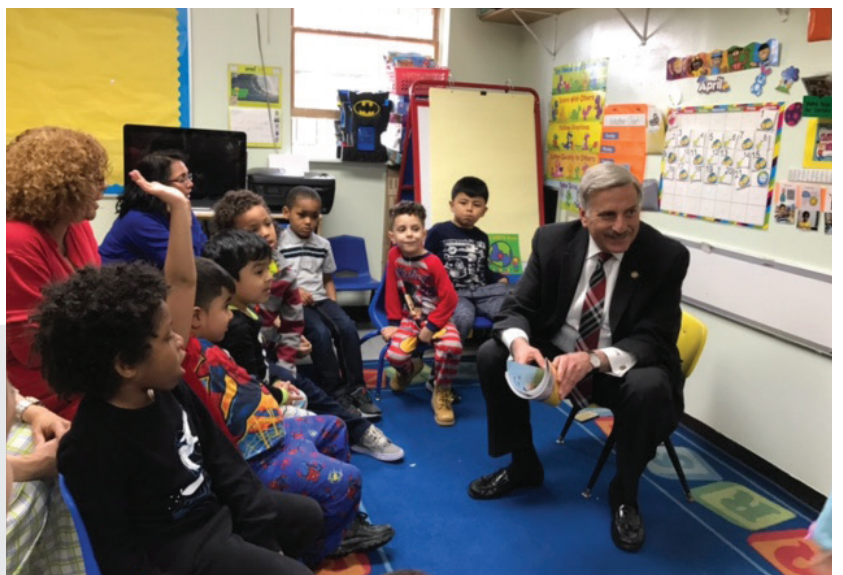
On April 14th, Assemblymember Weprin visited the Sing Sing Correctional facility to commemorate the tragic deaths of Prison Guard John Hartye and Ossining Police Officer James Fagan. Both officers were slain in the line of duty during an attempted escape. Each year Sing Sing Correctional Facility holds a ceremony to commemorate the tragic deaths of these officers who were killed in the line of duty.



On December 28th 2016, Assemblymember Weprin praised the NYPD for allowing Sikh officers to wear turbans. "I was elated to hear today's NYPD announcement authorizing Sikh officers the option to wear Turbans and beards. As a longtime proponent of religious freedom and as the prime Assembly sponsor of the 'Religious Garb' bill in New York State, I believe no one should have to choose between their religion and profession; and all Americans of all faiths should be allowed to freely exercise and display their religious choice at their place of employment. I applaud Mayor Bill de Blasio and NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill for championing the cause of religious liberty with this historic step; and congratulate the Sikh Officers Association and the Sikh community for achieving this milestone which makes it easier for people of the Sikh faith to serve in our country's largest police force, the NYPD."



Assemblymember Weprin joined Rabbi Shmuel Butman, head of the Lubavitch Youth Organization shortly after Assemblymember Weprin's resolution to commemorate the 115th birth of the Lubavitcher Rebbe Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson and to honor the "115 Days of Education" passed unanimously in the N.Y. State Assembly.



Assemblymember Weprin joined students at the HeartShare Human Services of NY in Richmond Hill in their Pajama Day event. Students and teachers alike participated in a fun day of reading, in their comfortable pajamas alongside the Assemblymember and shared a laugh.

Assemblymember Weprin in the Community



Assemblymember Weprin hosted a town hall aimed at addressing the concerns of civic leaders and the community. There were over 100 constituents in attendance to discuss quality of life matters that affect the 24th Assembly district. Pictured from left to right is Assemblymember Weprin, Shain Anderson from the Center for Independence of the Disabled, Darnley Jones from the Department for the Aging, Anthony Iuliano of the Department of Buildings, and Karen Ellis from the NYC Department of Environmental Protection.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

PRSRT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Albany, New York
Permit No. 75



Assemblymember
**DAVID I.
WEPRIN**

**Reports to the
Community**

Summer 2017



Assemblymember Weprin joined Christopher Roker, CEO, NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens for a tour of the hospital and discussed matters of priority to the hospital. The backdrop is a mural of The Function of the Hospital that was rededicated in a special ceremony.