



Assemblymember
Robert C. Carroll
Assembly District 44

Lobby Day in Albany

On Tuesday I welcomed 30 High School Students from the 44th Assembly District and from around New York City to lobby legislators on the Young Voter Act (A.6839), my bill to lower the voting age in state and local elections to 17. Thanks to their lobbying efforts, we were able to add an additional 9 Assembly co-sponsors and 3 Senate co-sponsors on Tuesday alone. The bill now has 20 Assembly co-sponsors and our next push will be to get this bill through the Election Law Committee.



Studies show that if you don't vote before you're 25, you're likely to never vote, so this bill will help instill that value. Turnout is high in Scotland and other nations where 17-year-olds have the franchise, while our voter turnout is getting worse. 50 percent of eligible voters under the age of 25 voted in the 1972 election which was the first year 18-year-olds were allowed to vote under the 26th Amendment, but in 2012 turnout was only 38 percent. New York has one of the lowest turnouts in the country and we have one of the most dysfunctional governments. That's what happens when people don't participate. The Young Voter Act would help reverse this trend and I look forward to continuing to work with young people from around the state to get more people involved in our electoral system.

Budget Town Hall

Thanks to all of you who came out to join me and Comptroller Stringer for our "Trump and the Budget" town hall at John Jay Educational Complex on Wednesday. Over 350 people attended and the Comptroller offered a depth of information on the City Budget as it relates to Trump's proposals that was both educational and concerning.



At the meeting, we distributed a flyer on the potential impact the federal budget could have on New York State, but if you weren't able to make it to the event, I have attached that document below if you are interested.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER
ROBERT CARROLL
44th District

Report to the Community: NEW YORK'S BUDGET PLAN



SFY 2017-18 Federal Spending by Program Area (\$ million)		
Program Area	Annual Estimate	% of Total
Medicaid & Health	38,888	74.70%
Human Services	4,419	8.49%
School Aid	3,625	6.96%
Transportation	1,442	2.77%
Mental Hygiene	163	0.31%
Higher Ed	8	0.02%
All Other	3,515	6.75%
Total Spending	52,060	100%

Source: estimates based on the 2017-18 Executive Financial Plan

- In the event that Federal Medicaid receipts decrease by \$850 Million or more or in the event the Federal Aid for all other programs (exclusive of Medicaid) are reduced by \$850 Million or more.
- The enacted State budget will require the State Division of Budget to submit a savings plan to the Legislature to offer reductions in spending to offset the loss.
- The Legislature will then have 90 days to review the plan, and in such time may adopt an alternative savings plan by resolution.
- Nothing in the statute precludes the legislature from instead adopting legislation to address potential cuts, which could include alternative cuts and new/enhanced revenue actions.

EDUCATION

2017-18 Federal Funding for Education

Title I – \$1.77 Billion Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure all children meet state academic standards. Funds support extra instruction in reading and mathematics, special preschool, after-school, and summer programs to extend and reinforce the regular school curriculum.

Title II – \$257 Million Title II funds are used to increase the number of high-quality, effective teachers and principals. For example, funds can be used for recruiting and retaining teachers, reducing class sizes and providing professional development.

Title III – \$65 Million Title III funds is known as the English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act. Title III funding is provided to State Education Agencies and Local Education Agencies to create or further develop language instruction courses to help Limited English Proficient (LEP) students meet academic standards. For example, funding can be used for alternative bilingual education programs, professional development and teaching English the parents of LEP children. The amount of funding each state receives is determined by a formula from the number of LEP and immigrant students in the state.

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EDUCATION CONTINUED

Title IV – \$132 Million Title IV funds support 21st Century learning centers and Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants (SSAEG). The funding authorizes activities such as college and career counseling, STEM, arts, International Baccalaureate/Advanced Placement, drug and violence prevention, as well as technology initiatives.

Education for Individuals with Disabilities – \$815 Million The funding for Education for Individuals with Disabilities is used for the excess costs of providing special education and related services to children with disabilities. For example, funding can be used to support and direct services, technical assistance, personnel preparation, improving the use of technology in the classroom, and behavioral intervention.

USDA – \$1.17 Billion The USDA Food and Nutrition fund provides grants to schools and other entities for programs funded through the national school lunch act. This funding provides low-cost or free school lunch meals to qualified students through subsidies to schools.

ENVIRONMENT

The Enacted Budget for the State Department of Conservation includes \$81m in Federal operating grants for all other statewide environmental projects, and also provides \$190 million in capital grants for this same purpose.

TRANSPORTATION

Federal funds play a critical role in funding the State's transportation infrastructure. The \$29.1 billion State DOT capital plan assumes \$11.4 billion (39%) in Federal funding. The \$28.1 billion MTA capital plan assumes \$7.3 billion (26%) in Federal funding.

Medicaid Expenditure Projections - All State Agencies (\$ in Millions)

	SFY 2017-18
State Share	\$23,444
Federal Share	\$33,528
Local Share	\$8,186
All Funds	\$65,158

MEDICAID FUNDING

NYC Medicaid Expenditures (in billions):

Total Federal Share		
Brooklyn	10.7	5.9
Total - NYC	32.2	18.0

THE TRUMP TAX PLAN

The true impact of President Trump's tax proposal cannot be readily ascertained, since the proposal is only a series of principles, rather than a detailed plan.

However, the potential elimination of the federal deduction of state and local taxes—the most widely used deduction among taxpayers who itemize on Federal returns—will have a profound, negative impact on New York taxpayers.

It will increase New York taxpayers' federal tax liability by nearly \$15 billion (based on 2013 data), or an increase of more than 30 percent, for an average per taxpayer increase of tax liability of over \$4,500.

New York's effective tax increase will account for the second highest share among all states after California. The increase in federal taxable income will completely offset any benefits from the lower middle-income state tax rates that were enacted with the 2016 budget.

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Thanks again to all who attended the event!

Church Avenue B/Q Walk Thru

In response to constituent concerns and complaints, I organized a walk-thru to inspect the station condition of the Church Avenue B/Q with community members, officials from the MTA and my colleague from the 42nd Assembly District, Rodneyse Bichotte.



I gave the MTA a list of issues within the station including removing debris and trash from the tracks, graffiti removal, replacing decrepit lighting fixtures, repairing water damage and doing maintenance on track walls, peeling paint, and puddling near the turnstiles. The MTA was receptive and will report back to my office in the next few weeks with a plan to address these issues.

If you have any community concerns or legislative ideas, please give my office a call at (718) 788-7221.

Bobby