



**May 26, 2023**

Greetings –

The delay in passing the State’s budget this year has made for an even tighter time frame to get legislation passed before the end of session. Despite this I am feeling optimistic about getting several pieces of my legislation passed.

The Dyslexia Diagnosis Access Act ([A.2898](#)) which passed the Assembly Insurance Committee this week, requires private health insurance policies to pay for neuropsychological exams for the purpose of diagnosing dyslexia. These exams are essential in terms of positively diagnosing for dyslexia but can cost over \$6,000. I receive calls or emails to my office regularly from parents from all over the state desperate because their child can’t read and one of the barriers they often face to getting services is the cost of neuropsychological exams.



**ROBERT  
CARROLL**

ASSEMBLYMEMBER // 44<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT



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# POLITICO

BY MADINA TOURÉ | 5/24/2023

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**EDUCATION:** The state Assembly's Insurance Committee passed legislation sponsored by **Assemblyman Robert Carroll** that would require private health insurance policies to pay for neuropsychological exams to diagnose dyslexia.

Read more at: <https://tinyurl.com/374wfk8a>

Given this, I was especially pleased to announce progress on this legislation when I spoke on Wednesday evening at a forum on the State's reading crisis in Syracuse organized by some amazing parent advocates from Onondaga County. The panel accompanied a screening of the film [The Right to Read](#). Produced by LeVar Burton, the film features the efforts of Oakland NAACP advocate Kareem Weaver to have schools in his city use evidence-based curricula to teach reading. I have had the opportunity to speak with Kareem and fully agree with him that the way reading has been taught in much of the country including in New York is deeply flawed. The Dyslexia Diagnosis Access Act is one

element in my ongoing campaign to see that all children get the chance to become fluid and fluent readers.



My “Golden Day” legislation ([A.6132](#)) which passed the Election Law Committee this week, will allow New Yorkers to register at an early voting site on the first day of early voting and then cast a ballot, all in one visit. This bill is part of my work to make voting easier for New Yorkers and improve the State’s chronically low voter participation rates. In 2022, the Governor signed my bill reducing the 25-day deadline for voter registration to 10 days. This created a scenario where the voter registration deadline now overlaps with the first day of early voting. Under this bill, eligible people who appear on the first Saturday of early voting can use same-day voter registration and voting procedures, without the need for additional steps. You can read about this legislation in the Gothamist [here](#).

### **Co-Sponsored Legislation on the Move**

I also want to highlight four bills among the many important bills I am a co-sponsor of. I continue to advocate for Sammy's Law ([A.7266](#)), which would make our streets safer by giving New York City the authority to lower the speed limit below the current floor of 25 mph. Just this week Sammy's Law received a "Home Rule Message" in support from the New York City Council, which is a welcome development. This past Tuesday, I joined advocates in Albany rallying to pass the "HEAT Act" ([A.4592](#)). This bill will put in place the framework needed so utilities stop building out fossil fuel infrastructure and aligns the State's public service law with the climate justice and emission reduction mandates set forth in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (the "CLCPA").



Finally, two criminal justice reform bills I have co-sponsored for many years, the “Fair and Timely Parole” bill ([A.162](#)) and the “Elder Parole” bill ([A.2035](#)) passed the Assembly Corrections Committee this week. Fair and Timely Parole would prevent the Parole Board from arbitrarily denying release to an incarcerated person who is otherwise eligible for release on parole, unless that person presents a current risk that cannot be reduced by parole supervision in New York State. Elder Parole would make incarcerated people aged 55 years and older who have been in prison for at least 15 years automatically eligible for

a parole hearing. These bills would be important steps in making our criminal justice fairer and less punitive.

### **Free Flood Barriers and Rain Barrel Sign Up**

In response to reports of flooding in my district, my office requested 6 and 12 foot [flood barriers from DEP](#). Stop by the office and pick up one or two for your basement doors or other trouble spots prone to flooding.

As in years past, I am working with DEP to distribute free rain barrels. This year, the supply is delayed and we won't be able to distribute them until June or July. We will let you know as soon as they are available, but in the meantime, get your name on the list so you will have one [reserved when they do arrive](#).

### **A Note from the NYC Civic Engagement Commission**

Voting has started for *The People's Money*, NYC's first-ever citywide participatory budgeting (PB) process!

All New Yorkers age 11 and up, regardless of immigration status, have the opportunity to decide how to spend \$5 million of mayoral expense funding on projects in their community.

Though NYC City Council members introduced PB back in 2011, and many City Council members currently participate, *The People's Money* is the first *citywide* process utilizing Mayoral expense funding. Expense funding can be used for projects and services, and the citywide process allows all New Yorkers to participate, regardless of the council district they live in. To learn more about the process, [click here](#).

How to Vote by June 25th:

1. Online Ballot: [Vote online here](#).
2. Paper Ballots: [Visit a vote site](#) in your neighborhood, or [visit a pop-up vote event](#)

If you have any concerns about these or any other legislative or community matter please email me at [carrollr@nyassembly.gov](mailto:carrollr@nyassembly.gov) or call (718) 788-7221.

I hope you have a wonderful Memorial Day weekend,

Bobby

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