



January 16, 2026

Greetings –

This week in Albany I attended Governor Hochul's State of the State Address. Overall, I was pleased with many of the Governor's proposals and look forward to working with the Governor's team and my colleagues in the Assembly to see them enacted into law and included in the State's budget as necessary. Below are some key takeaways.

Significant Expansion of Child Care in NYC and Statewide

Governor Hochul proposed investing an additional \$1.7 billion in child care funding to make Pre-K truly universal statewide by the start of the 2028-29 school year and partnering with New York City to launch Mayor Mamdani's 2-Care program and while ensuring universal 3K access in New York City.

Protection for Renters and Limiting Utility Costs

The Governor called for increasing the income eligibility limits for both the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) from \$50,000 to \$75,000 in New York City, with the same options being available with local opt in outside the City. SCRIE and DRIE provide crucial protections for New Yorkers who can least afford rent increases. The Governor also called for measures to control utility costs by: tying executive pay at utility companies to customer affordability, requiring utilities to present a budget that keeps their operating and capital costs below the rate of inflation when requesting a rate increase, and removing hidden fees from utility bills.

Protecting Immigrants against ICE

In response to the lawless behavior we are witnessing from ICE in New York City and around the country, the Governor is proposing legislation that would allow New Yorkers to sue ICE when their constitutional rights have been violated. The Governor also proposed restricting federal agents from certain sensitive locations including hospitals, schools, day care centers and religious institutions unless they have a judicial warrant. I fully support these measures, but believe we still need to go further to protect immigrants and reign in ICE and will continue to advocate for [The New York For All Act \(A.3506/S.2235\)](#); [The Dignity Not Detention Act \(A.4181/S.316\)](#); and [the Access to Representation Act \(A.270/S.141\)](#).

Upcoming Atlantic Yards Workshop #3

Atlantic Yards Public Workshop #3 is taking place virtually on Thursday, 1/22 from 6-7:30 PM.

Registrants are welcome to submit questions for ESD and the Development Team in advance of the Workshop. Attendees will also be able to ask questions (written or verbally) during the meeting itself.

[You can register here.](#)

The Atlantic Yards Online Survey will remain open to the public until Friday, 1/23 at 8PM.

[Find the online survey link here.](#)

Upcoming MTA Mobile Sales Unit at My District Office 1/29

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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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