

# Assemblyman William Colton

*Fighting for Us and Our Community*



## Assemblyman Colton Continues Fighting for Education

Assemblyman Colton is very concerned that the 2020-2021 School State budget failed to reimburse the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE) billions of dollars owed to New York City schools and other high-needs school districts. These monies have been owed over a long period of time to these school districts, which are still feeling the effects at present. There have been overcrowded classes, and a shortage of supplies, technology, and other resources needed to provide a better quality education for our students.

For many years, I have been fighting for more Specialized High Schools and more Gifted & Talented programs in New York City schools. The budget must provide sufficient funds to schools in order to fulfill the needs of the children who are performing over or below the standard grade levels. It should also provide all children with resources to excel in their education.

Even in times of financial crisis, I believe education must be one of the top priorities. To make up for any deficits due to COVID-19, I believe we must look to increase revenue from the super-wealthy



whose income is more than one million dollars annually. Low- and middle-income families have been overburdened for too many years. Also, those with a second or third luxury home worth more than two million dollars should be subject to a higher property tax for those properties. This could raise the billions needed to repay the monies owed our children.

## Assemblyman Colton Supports Sensible Police Reform Law

Due to the horrific murder of George Floyd, there has been an emotional reaction from thousands of people across the nation, calling for justice and police reforms. I do support making sensible changes to bring about a better justice system; these changes must meet three criteria: be transparent and clear, be fair and reasonable, and promote public safety. I do believe most police officers do a great job of protecting us, even though there are few that do abuse their power.



I voted for a bill A.10611, which permits the disclosure of certain law enforcement disciplinary records and repeals section 50-a of the civil rights law. However, law enforcement agencies would be required to remove all personal information such as home addresses, telephone numbers, personal email addresses, social security numbers, medical and mental health services, or substance abuse assistance to police officers. I also voted for a law to prohibit chokeholds, which unlike a measure recently passed by City Council, does not prohibit use of body weight on the back to restrain a violently struggling person. I also voted for a law to require medical assistance to be called by police officers if a person in custody is sick. But I voted against legislation which would require police officers to fill out onerous reports of over 23 items as to the race, religion, ethnicity, etc. for every summons, violation, or arrest they make; and against legislation requiring a police officer to be referred for investigation by a misconduct commission if there were 5 complaints against that officer within a two-year period, whether or not such complaints were founded or unfounded. I believe that in targeting bad officers, we must not be placing unreasonable restrictions or burdens hindering the work of many good police officers fighting crime and protecting all of us.

## Assemblyman Colton Protecting Families by Passing Legislation During COVID-19

Together, with my colleagues, we passed a crucial legislative package to protect and support New Yorkers during the COVID-19 pandemic. I supported and voted for legislation that focuses on helping families stay in their homes, providing economic relief for struggling workers and businesses, strengthening the health care system, and maintaining critical services.

I have been a longtime supporter in protecting New Yorkers' rights and voted for the following bills:

- **A.10270**, updating New York's anti-price gouging law to include medical supplies and services, as well as goods and services used to promote public health.



- **A.10326**, prohibiting health care employers from retaliating against those speaking out about workplace safety or health violations, including to the news media or on social media.

Many of my constituents struggle with paying for mortgages and rent as a result of the coronavirus crisis, which is why I voted for the following legislation:

- **A.10290**, will prohibit the eviction for nonpayment of rent of residential tenants who have suffered financial hardship and were in arrears on rent due to COVID-related reasons. The tenant will remain liable for the rent owed and is subject to a money judgment but will not be made homeless due to these extraordinary circumstances.
- **A.10351**, this bill provides New York chartered banks grant 180 days of mortgage forbearance to those who can demonstrate financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **A.10252**, will permit municipalities to defer certain property taxes during the COVID-19 State of Emergency and will also permit installment payments to be determined by the local legislative body. No additional interest or penalties will accrue during such deferral.
- **A.10521**, will prohibit utilities, water-works corporations from terminating or disconnecting services to any residential customer for the nonpayment of an overdue charge for the duration of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.
- **A.10528**, will provide an automatic benefit to the families of our front-line workers impacted by this virus, and will apply to all workers who passed away after March 1, 2020.

## Assemblywoman Colton Praised His Staff for Their Hard Work and Dedication Working From Home During the Pandemic

My office has served over 4,000 constituents each year before being temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 health emergency. It was crucial to have my dedicated staff working from home to continue to serve and meet the needs of my constituents.



We have helped hundreds of people with a variety of issues, such as unemployment, stimulus check status, SNAP renewals, homeowners, tenant/housing conflicts, directing constituents to free food and air conditioning services, property tax exemption, and other help. My staff spent hours on the phone regarding unemployment issues, which they have been working closely with the Governor's office to break through the backlog of the Department of Labor in getting unemployment benefits approved for many. There also have been many questions and concerns regarding rent and mortgage issues, which they answered. Calls were made to thousands of constituents to see if they needed any help. Together, with local leaders and business owners, we organized donations of hot meals and cleaning supplies for our neighborhood police precincts, fire houses, and hospitals, as well as helped obtain face masks for those constituents in need.

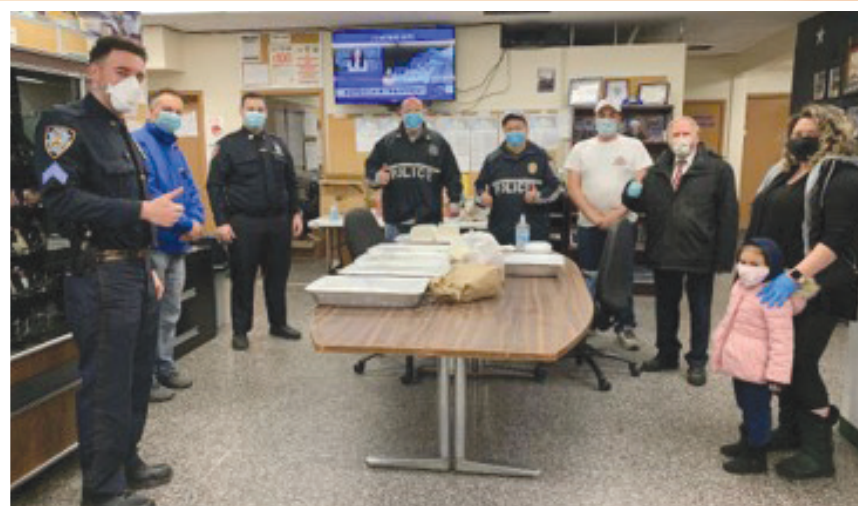
# Assemblyman Colton Supporting Neighborhood Responders During COVID-19 Crisis



*Assemblyman Colton, joined by Club A-Elita and its president Leonora Bulychova, together with 47th AD District Leader Nancy Tong, and 45th AD District Leader Ari Kagan, sponsored a social distancing virtual concert at Regina Pacis Housing in Brooklyn.*



*Assemblyman Colton with Community Leader Ari Kagan and Health Essentials Community Center president Lina Chan at a food giveaway.*



*Assemblyman Colton, together with the owner of the Ciao Pizza and Pasta, and the officers of the Tai Shan Du Hu Association of America, delivering hot food to the 60th Precinct and face masks, surgical gloves, and a variety of supplies to the 62nd Precinct and Coney Island Hospital.*

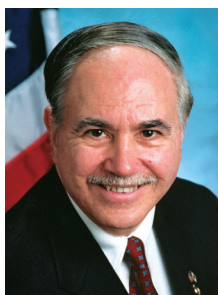
# Assemblyman Colton's Community Office Reopened on July 27th

While my staff did an excellent job working from home during the pandemic, I am pleased to announce the re-opening of my office on July 27th, 2020. I have set in place safety measures and social distancing for everyone, as safety is a top priority for my employees and constituents. I am looking forward to continuing to serve and fight for all my constituents.



Community Office, 155 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, NY 11223

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ASSEMBLYMAN  
**WILLIAM  
COLTON**

*Fighting For Us and  
Our Community*

Fall 2020

## Assemblyman Colton's Community Office Serves You



**155 Kings Highway  
(between West 12 and West 13 Streets)  
718-236-1598 • Email: [coltonw@nyassembly.gov](mailto:coltonw@nyassembly.gov)**



**Monday-Wednesday ..... 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursday ..... Noon to 8 p.m.  
Friday ..... 10 a.m. to Noon**

We will help you with: Small Business Concerns + Housing Issues + STAR/E-STAR + SCRIE/DRIE + HEAP + HeartShare Food Stamps + Health Insurance + State/City Agencies Problems + Quality of Life Issues, getting traffic safety measures such as traffic lights, speed bumps, getting potholes and dangerous conditions fixed, and much more.