


ASSEMBLY MEMBER

Jaime Williams

Reports to the People



Winter 2025 / 2026

5318 Avenue N, 1st Floor, Brooklyn, New York 11234 • 718-252-2124

Room 641 LOB, Albany, New York 12248 • 518-455-5211 • williamsja@nyassembly.gov

Assemblywoman Jaime Williams 2025 Year in Review

As the year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on some of the things we accomplished together in 2025. It was a year filled with challenges, long nights, and important milestones, but also one that reminded me of the incredible strength and resilience of our community here in the 59th Assembly District.

The legislative session in Albany was one of the most unpredictable I have experienced. It began with a slow start and a state budget that was more than a month late, forcing lawmakers to spend weeks catching up through off-the-floor committee meetings and extended voting sessions that stretched late into the night. Despite these challenges, my office never lost sight of our mission: to deliver meaningful results for the families, seniors, veterans, and small business owners who call South Brooklyn home.

Through collaboration, persistence, and a commitment to doing what is right, we worked with advocates from across New York to pass legislation that strengthens public safety, supports our first responders, and protects the quality of life for our residents.

I am especially proud to have passed **Assembly Bill A3729**, which provides a property tax exemption for the surviving spouses of police officers killed in the line of duty. This new law is a small but powerful way to honor the families who have given so much in service to our public safety, ensuring they receive the support and recognition they deserve.

Throughout the year, our office continued advancing legislation to improve public health protections, expand educational

opportunities, and ensure that New York’s growing energy infrastructure is developed responsibly. We know that progress takes time, and we remain committed to seeing these efforts through.

While **Assembly Bill A6955A**, which would create sensible regulations on lithium-ion battery storage facilities, did not make it to the Assembly floor before the end of session, our work on this issue is far from over. These facilities have raised safety and environmental concerns in communities across the state, including right here in our district. Throughout the year, we held rallies and press conferences in New York City and in Albany advocating for reform, working alongside Senator Joseph Addabbo, Councilman Robert Holden, and officials and advocates from every part of New York State. I remain determined to bring stakeholders together to find a solution that prioritizes both safety and sustainability.

I proudly sponsored **Assembly Bill A3686**, which called for the reinstatement of New York City employees who were terminated under the COVID-19 vaccine mandates. From the start, we fought for these workers, believing that fairness, compassion, and respect for individual rights must guide public policy. This year, that effort paid off when Mayor Adams announced that the city will offer reemployment to roughly 2,900 former city employees who lost their jobs due to COVID mandates. These workers will be given the opportunity to return to their former titles and salaries, marking an important victory for fairness and for the thousands of families who were affected.

Supporting Our Seniors, Families, and Neighbors

Beyond legislative work, my office has continued to serve as a vital resource for residents to find educational opportunities and navigate important state and city programs.

This year marked the third year of our **Youth Engagement Summer STEM at Sea (YESSS)** program, a summer learning opportunity that has become something truly special for young people. The program allows students to explore marine life, conduct real experiments, and understand what it takes to protect our ecosystems. As an alumna of Kingsborough Community College, I am very proud of this program, hosted through the college, that gives our youth meaningful hands-on experience while letting them have some fun along the way.

I am also excited to share that I have already secured state funding for next summer, so even more students can take part. We look forward to another great season of summer camp and to continuing our work supporting hands-on learning that inspires the next generation.

The **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** helps income-eligible households with the high cost of heating their homes during the winter months. The 2025–2026 application period was

scheduled to open on November 17, 2025. Both homeowners and renters may qualify depending on income and household size, and our office is available to help residents with their applications. Due to the federal government shutdown, this has been delayed until further notice. For the most up-to-date information please visit: <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/#expanded>

As **Chair of the Assembly Committee on Real Property Taxation**, I am also proud to help residents access **New York City Property Tax Exemptions** that can reduce their tax bills. The application period for the **Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption** is open through **March 15, 2026**. Other common exemptions include those for veterans, clergy, and people with disabilities. If you or someone you know needs help completing an application, please reach out to my office for assistance.

In addition, the **Medicare Savings Program (MSP)** continues to help New Yorkers with limited income pay for their Medicare premiums. Depending on your income, the program may also cover other cost-sharing expenses, and when you enroll in an MSP, you automatically receive Extra Help, the federal program that assists with most prescription drug (Part D) costs. My office remains available to help residents determine eligibility and apply.

The Year in Review: Here are



Here are a few highlights from 2025



Resolutions that Reflect
Our Community’s Values

This year, I was proud to sponsor and pass several meaningful resolutions in the New York State Assembly that reflect my commitment to our community, our environment, and our shared history. I introduced resolutions recognizing the importance of protecting our oceans and wetlands, promoting hurricane awareness in the Northeast, and honoring the rich contributions of Caribbean heritage. I also passed a resolution encouraging Holocaust remembrance so that future generations continue to learn from the past, especially in a time when antisemitism is an ever-growing threat. Finally, I led the Assembly in remembering Dorothy Turano for her lifelong dedication and service to our community.



Out of all the resolutions, the most meaningful one to me was the one that honored the late Dorothy Turano, a friend, longtime community activist, and District Manager of Community Board 18.

Honoring Our Veterans

Supporting and recognizing our veterans remains one of my top priorities, and I was proud to host the 5th Annual Veterans Appreciation Day at the Carmine Carro Community Center in Brooklyn this November. The event brought together veterans, families, and neighbors to celebrate the courage and commitment of those who have served our nation.

Our keynote speaker, Marty Maher, a 27-year Coast Guard veteran and Brooklyn Parks Commissioner, shared his inspiring story of service and community leadership. Marty has dedicated more than 53 years to the Boy Scouts of America, and his example continues to motivate young people and families across South Brooklyn.

This year, I was also proud to organize the installation of 172 new banners honoring

local veterans. These banners now line the streets of Avenue N, Bergen Beach, Canarsie, Gerritsen Beach, and Marine Park, each one a visible reminder of the heroes among us. I am deeply grateful to the volunteers and community partners who made this project possible. Together, we ensured that our veterans’ sacrifices are recognized every day, not only on Veterans Day.

During the 2025 legislative session, we also advanced **Assembly Bill A.74**, which establishes a real property tax exemption for the primary residences of disabled veterans, through the Committee on Real Property Taxation and secured its passage in both houses of the State Legislature. This bill represents a significant step toward our goal of giving back to those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

Fighting for Transportation Equity in Canarsie

Transportation access remains one of the most pressing challenges facing our district, particularly in Canarsie. In **August 2025**, I wrote a letter to Mayor Eric Adams outlining the lack of transportation alternatives in Canarsie, which I described as a transportation desert. The L train, the only subway line serving the area, is located in the northern part of the district and is difficult to access for most residents. Surface transportation options are also inadequate to meet the needs of our growing community, which is why the NYC Ferry service would be an ideal solution.

The recent announcement from the **New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC)** that the planned Ferry expansion does not include Canarsie was deeply disappointing. After years of advocacy, petition drives, and meetings to bring the Ferry to Canarsie Pier, it is discouraging to see our community’s needs once again overlooked. I remain committed to working with the incoming administration to make this project a reality and ensure that South Brooklyn gets the transportation equity it deserves.

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New York State Assembly
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Looking Ahead to 2026

As we prepare for the year ahead, I remain committed to fighting for the values and priorities that matter most to the people of the 59th Assembly District.

In 2026, I will:

- Continue the push for common-sense regulations on battery power plants (A6955A) to protect our neighborhoods and first responders.
- Fight for economic relief for families and businesses working hard to recover from the high cost of living.

- As Chair of the Assembly Committee on Real Property Taxation, work with colleagues from across the state to craft policies that put money back in the pockets of taxpayers.
- Advocate for strong funding for schools, transportation, and local infrastructure, ensuring our communities have the resources they need to thrive.

As 2025 comes to a close and we prepare for the new year, our work never ceases. I am deeply thankful for the trust you have placed in me and for the opportunity to serve the people of the 59th Assembly District. Together, we will continue building a safer, stronger, and more vibrant South Brooklyn for all.