

NEWS FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER MICAHLASHER

A NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION: STANDING UP FOR OUR VALUES

Protecting Our Immigrant Neighbors

The Trump administration's immigration crackdown has terrorized communities across the country, including right here in New York. I've introduced two key pieces of legislation to push back.

My bill to hold ICE agents accountable (A.9092) would allow New Yorkers to sue federal immigration agents in state court when they violate constitutional rights. Governor Hochul included this proposal in her State of the State address and Executive Budget after



the fatal shooting of Renee Nicole Good by an ICE agent — on top of the deaths of more than 32 people in ICE custody in 2025. If this becomes law, New York will join states like California, Massachusetts, and Maine in closing the accountability gap that exists under Federal law.

My bill to protect sensitive locations (A.8139) would make schools, hospitals, houses of worship, and shelters off-limits for arrest by immigration authorities without a judicial warrant. The Trump Administration has rolled back protections for sensitive locations, putting immigrant families at risk even when accessing essential services. This legislation restores those protections under State law. This idea, too, has been taken up by the Governor in her Executive Budget.



Access to Lifesaving Vaccines

When the Centers for Disease Control — now under the thumb of Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. — failed to issue guidance necessary for pharmacies to administer vaccines, I immediately introduced legislation (A.8383) to allow the New York State Department of Health to step in and issue vaccine guidance. Governor Hochul has included this idea in her Executive Budget, and I'm hopeful that we will see it become law soon.

Safeguarding Houses of Worship & Reproductive Healthcare Facilities

After an awful incident outside Park East Synagogue, I introduced legislation (A.9335) with Senator Sam Sutton, Senator Liz Krueger, and Assemblymember Nily Rozic to create a 25-foot buffer zone around houses of worship and reproductive healthcare facilities. I am strongly committed to freedom of speech, and believe that a modest buffer zone balances speech rights with the proposition that no one should have to run a gauntlet of harassment and intimidation to enter a house of worship or access healthcare.

Standing Up for Tenants



Working with District Attorney Alvin Bragg and Senator Brian Kavanagh, I introduced legislation (A.9220) to strengthen New York's law against tenant harassment. Our bill creates a new Class D felony for aggravated harassment of rent-regulated tenants across multiple buildings that have the same owner. For too long, scale has acted as a shield for bad landlords. Our legislation would put a stop to this.

STANDING WITH MINNESOTA

I just returned from Minneapolis, where I spent two days with residents of the city who are fighting back against ICE, and for their community.

What I heard about from so many residents of Minneapolis is what all of us have feared, and what we in New York must prepare for: ICE agents driving through neighborhoods, going up and down apartment buildings banging on doors, and sitting outside schools, trying to round up anyone they can. The Trump Administration has turned immigration enforcement into a campaign of terror, and Minneapolis is at the center of it.

Over the course of my visit, I attended protests, community meetings, and a vigil for Alex Pretti, who was shot and killed by ICE. I joined an ICE neighborhood patrol organized by residents who are watching out for their neighbors. I met with Minnesota State Senate Majority Leader Erin Murphy to discuss what's happening on the ground and how New Yorkers can provide support, and with State Rep. Jamie Long to discuss our parallel efforts to hold ICE agents accountable under state law.





I'm also grateful to State Senator Mary Kunesh, Columbia Heights Mayor Amada Márquez-Simula, and School Board Chair Mary Granlund for sharing with me how their community has organized to protect their neighbors from ICE. Columbia Heights is where 5-year-old Liam Ramos is from. My heart breaks for what they are going through, and I am inspired by their spirit and courage.

I visited Pow Wow Grounds, a Native-run coffee shop that has become an incredible mutual aid hub, gathering and delivering food and resources for families across Minneapolis and St. Paul. And I made grocery runs to help stock distribution centers for people who have been targeted by ICE and are afraid to leave their homes.

As much as I had read about what was happening in Minneapolis, being on the ground was eye-opening and chilling. But I also saw something that gave me hope: so many people who understand that they all have a stake in protecting their neighbors and pushing ICE out of their city. Because if they can win this fight in Minneapolis, it will make every American city less likely to face the same onslaught.

The people of Minneapolis are in a fight for the soul of their city, and they are fighting for us, too.

CONTACT MY OFFICE!

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Every day, my office helps constituents navigate bureaucracy, access benefits, resolve landlord disputes, and address quality-of-life concerns.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for a **Medicare Rights Training** on March 11th from 12-2 p.m. at the Ryan Health Center, 110 West 97th Street, to learn how to navigate your health insurance coverage.



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para Espanol*

Dear Neighbor,

With the start of a new year and a new legislative session, I wanted to update you on the work that my team and I are doing in Albany to fight back against what's coming out of Washington.

It's no secret that we are facing extraordinary challenges. The Trump Administration's assault on the rights, protections, and programs that New Yorkers depend on continues unabated. But I continue to believe that State government can be a powerful counterweight — and that guides much of my work in Albany.

I'm proud to report that Governor Hochul has included five of my legislative proposals in her Executive Budget. While not yet law, the inclusion of items in the Executive Budget creates a clear path to passage. These proposals reflect my commitment to protecting immigrant New Yorkers, ensuring access to vaccines, pushing back against hate, and standing up for tenants. I discuss each of them inside this newsletter.

I also recently traveled to Minnesota — to show solidarity with the people there fighting back against ICE, and to learn lessons for New York. What I saw, first-hand, was both the terror of Trump's immigration crackdown and the inspiring efforts of so many people to fight back and protect their neighbors.

As always, it is a privilege to serve this community, and my team and I are at your disposal.

— Micah