



Assembly Member **HARVEY EPSTEIN**



74TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT • REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE • SUMMER 2024

LEARN ABOUT THE 2024 STATE BUDGET!

This was a very tough budget. New York uses an executive budget model, which means the governor is responsible for drafting and introducing a budget that the legislature can modify, up to a point. Within the current executive budget model, we are open to losing policies that matter at the negotiating table like the strongest possible protections for rent-stabilized and market-rate tenants.

The governor also pushed an increase to the cap on Individual Apartment Improvements (IAs) we won in 2019, which opens the door to landlords raising rents on stabilized tenants and making it less affordable to stay in the same apartment long-term. We need more affordability protections in place for tenants, not less.

Despite these areas of disappointment, we are encouraged by the following:

All tenants deserve protection from unjust evictions and rent hikes. We will keep pushing to make this a reality.

- **NYCHA**
We invested \$140 million in capital funds for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) which adds up to over \$1 billion we have fought for over the past few years. We will never stop fighting for the rights of tenants in public housing.
- **Mitchell Lama Program**
We committed \$80 million in capital dollars to fund existing Mitchell Lama developments, which provide affordable rental and cooperative housing for moderate- and middle-income families. We also allocated funding to develop a new Mitchell Lama program.

Expanding Affordable Housing

▪ **Basement Apartment Legalization**

I have fought for years to legalize basement and cellar apartments. Through legalization, NYC would get the local control, legal tools, and discretion it needs to create a program to bring existing illegal basement units into conformance with the state's safety standards. This will be piloted in 15 Community Districts including Community Boards 2 and 3.



▪ **Extending Floor-Area Ratio**

New York removed the 12 FAR cap which limits how tall a building can be and as a result, how much housing can be built in NYC. While the Governor sought to lift that cap, we fought for and won protections for tenants who live in historic buildings, and tenants who are at risk of harassment and displacement and guaranteed that we will set aside housing as permanently affordable for families making less than 80 percent of the Annual Median Income (AMI).

▪ **Accessory Dwelling Unit Pilot**

Through my legislative efforts, we established a real property tax exemption for accessory dwelling units (ADUs). This will increase the housing stock in New York state, enable multigenerational families to stay together with ample space and give certain homeowners an opportunity to generate rental income to help with mortgage costs.

▪ **Expanded Tenant Protections**

We stood up for market-rate tenants who have been with almost no protections for too long. In my district, in Waterside Plaza alone, 700 families are gaining new protections from extreme rent increases and unwarranted eviction. This will help tens of thousands of tenants in our community and millions around the city. I am disappointed that this effort could not have gone further by extending protections statewide, including new construction, and protecting all tenants, not just tenants where a landlord owns more than 10 apartments.

Building a Better Neighborhood

▪ **The Joyce**

I am happy to have championed the inclusion of \$2 million for The Joyce Theater as they take over the former Boys Club (287 E 10th) to upgrade the space that is in desperate need of support.

▪ **Increased Funding for Crucial Nonprofit Organizations**

I advocated and helped ensure we provided additional funding for the following organizations: Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD), Community Health Advocates (CHA), CUNY, Disability Advocacy Program (DAP), Domestic Violence Services, Education Debt Consumer Assistance Program (EDCAP), Family Planning Services, General Support for Public Schools (GSPS), Holocaust Survivors Initiative, HOPE Program, Hunger Prevention, and Nutrition Assistance Program, Nourish New York, NYCHA Capital Repairs, Settlement Houses, Support for Students with Disabilities, and the Lorena Borjas Transgender and Non-Binary Wellness and Equity Fund

▪ **Illegal Cannabis Shops**

I fought to increase the authority of local law enforcement to crack down on illegal cannabis shops. Unlicensed shops undermine the social justice goals of this program while also evading safety requirements and taxes. We will see many of those illegal shops being closed very soon. Please reach out if you have concerns about an illegal location near you.

▪ **Sammy's Law**

Too many New Yorkers have lost their lives due to speeding. We know how dramatically the chances of death fall when speeds fall too. I am proud we passed Sammy's law to give the city the power they need to slow down traffic on our streets.



ASSEMBLYMAN HARVEY EPSTEIN & LOISAIDA INC PRESENT

MOVIES IN TOMPKINS '24

JUNE-SEPT, 8 PM

Avenue A & E. 10th Street
Tompkins Square Park Skate/PlayGround

June 26, 2024 | 8 pm
ENCANTO (Rated PG)

July 24, 2024 | 8 pm
LITTLE FUGITIVE (Rated G)

August 29, 2024 | 8 pm
SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS (Rated R)

September 25, 2024 | 8 pm
EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE
(Rated R)

FREE pizza courtesy of TWO BOOTS at all screenings!

(while supply lasts!)



Supported by the
State of New York

Championing the Needs of Children and Families



- **Education**

We increased school aid by \$1.3 billion for a total of \$35.9 billion and included \$24.9 billion for Foundation Aid, a \$934.5 million increase over the 2023-24 School Year. Additionally, we extended mayoral control of New York City Schools for two years while NY convenes a commission to consider reforms to the New York City Department of Education governance structure and allows us to relook at school governance.

- **Tuition Assistance Program and Higher Education**

The NY State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) provides critical funding for our state's students to expand their educational horizons. The new state budget increases the income threshold so more students can receive this critical assistance. Over the past two years, we have invested more funds in CUNY and SUNY than we have seen in decades. I am a proud CUNY alumni, along with many of my family members and I will never stop working to make higher education accessible to all New Yorkers who wish to attend college.

- **Empire State Child Tax Credit**

We created a supplemental \$350 million Empire State Child Tax Credit to help hard-working families.

Want to learn more about the 2024 budget? Visit <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein/press/>.



Assembly Member Harvey Epstein & DSNY'S

SHREDDING SPECTACULAR!!

WHEN: Thursday, September 12th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

WHERE: Tompkins Square Park on Ave A & E 9th St.

WHAT: No electronics or batteries, paper only.



Call 212-979-9696 or email district74@nyassembly.gov with any questions.



Assembly Member Harvey Epstein invites you to

HANG WITH HARVEY



Upcoming Hangs!

Wednesday, July 17th, 10 AM - 12 PM

Stuytown Community Center
449 E 14th St.

Wednesday, August 14th, 3 PM - 5 PM

with Council Member Erik Bottcher
Madison Square Park entrance on Madison Ave
and East 25th St.

Monday, September 9th, 4 PM - 6 PM

Stuyvesant Square Park at the Park's Center
9 Rutherford Place

Ask your legislative or local questions.

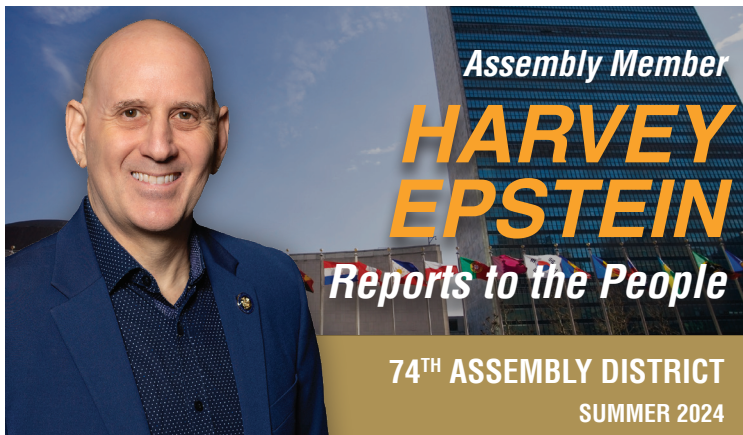
Recycle Your E-Waste with Lower East Side Ecology Center

SUNDAY, JULY 14TH 10 AM - 2 PM

Union Square
on the
North Plaza at 17th St.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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Assembly Member Harvey Epstein Fights For Our Community

