

Dear friends,

Happy Valentine's Day!

While we have a lot of love for each other here on the West Side, who we really love is OUR PETS! This Valentine's Day I am excited to share the introduction of more animal protection bills!

I spent some time this Valentine's Day sharing the news and spreading the love to our furry friends! You can watch the video by clicking <u>here</u>.









While more bills are coming, my team and I have been hard at work to deliver these four in time for Valentine's Day:

PAWS Act (<u>A3616</u>)

All of the dogs that I had the pleasure to spend time with at the beautiful Chelsea Dog Park crossed the street on their way there. God forbid, if one of them had gotten hit by a car, the penalty for killing one of these beautiful animals could be as low as \$50. Animals deserve respect and dignity, and a penalty that low is preposterous for animals that are so precious to so many New Yorkers. For so many of us, our pets are members of our family. Anyone who has had a pet knows the transformative love of an animal. That is why my bill significantly raises penalties for reckless driving that results in the injury or loss of a pet. You can sign our petition in support of the PAWS Act by clicking here.

Animal Shelter Donations (A4910)

Adopting my baby Radar has been one of the most fulfilling things I have done in my life. Our animal shelters and pounds play a critical role for so many in our community as they help people expand and grow their loving families. That is why I introduced a bill to make it easier for dog owners to donate to animal shelters when they register their new family member.

Cracking Down on Animal Fighting (A4894)

Sadly, the cruel and horrific practice of animal fighting still happens in our state. If you are like me, this disgusts you. My bill significantly increases penalties for conducting animal fights or facilitating them by reclassifying them as higher offenses. We must do everything we can to end this unjust suffering in New York State!

Banning Dog Breed Discrimination in Housing (A4884)

Discrimination is wrong and that includes discrimination against dogs and their owners! Currently, a landlord can refuse to rent to people simply because of the breed of dog they have. This is unjust and should not be allowed. My bill will ban discrimination against owners of certain dog breeds when it comes to finding a place to stay.

The love I have for my fur baby Radar fuels my fight to protect animals across our great state. For the love of pets, Happy Valentine's Day!

