



# ASSEMBLYMAN BILL MAGNARELLI

## 2024 Progress Report

Dear Neighbor,

My motivation to be an elected official is to serve the community I grew up in and continue to live in. As your Assemblyman, the opportunity to represent and serve my life-long community is a position I am honored to hold. As the representative of the 129th District, my area includes the Northside, Westside, Eastwood, Valley, Outer Comstock and Downtown areas of the City of Syracuse, as well as the Town of Geddes, including the Village of Solvay, and the Town of Van Buren, including the Van Buren portion of the Village of Baldwinsville.

For half the year, I work out of the Syracuse office - attending local events and meeting representatives from the community to learn about their concerns related to state issues. During this time, I am able to gather information in depth about the cultures, organizations and institutions in our area.

When I return to Albany for the Legislative Session in January, I use the information and concerns gathered to advocate for and pass legislation that improves the lives of working families, not just in Central New York, but across the state. To become law, legislation must be approved by both houses of the Legislature and the Governor. This year, we were able to pass bills which continue to protect the vulnerable, honor our veterans, aid first-responders to make their jobs safer and adjust policies to protect the public from dishonest practices. New York continues to lead the way on these and so many other important issues.

Central New York is a wonderful area filled with a tightly knit community of neighbors. My office organizes a variety of free events to help meet specific needs in the community and to build the relationships that our residents rely on. Earlier this year we held an electronic recycling event and two paper shredding events - these were well attended, as residents were looking to properly dispose of documents with sensitive information and electronics in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. The teens from Solvay High School Athletics volunteered to unload the cars. Their help made the events run very smoothly!

**Save the date: CNY Veterans Parade and Expo on Nov. 9.** This is a wonderful opportunity for residents to interact with the organizations in our community that provide encouragement and services for veterans.

I am committed to serving my constituents and hope that you will contact my office if you have any questions about State Government Agencies, or concerns about community matters. My office is available to assist you with these concerns.

*Bill Magnarelli*



# 2024 PROGRAM

## LEGISLATION FOR C

When in Albany, I sponsor legislation that will aid our communities, strengthen our local cultural institutions and help those in need. The legislation is carefully researched and worded so that it is as clear as possible and addresses the issue at hand. To become law, the legislation has to be approved by both the Assembly and the State Senate before being presented to and hopefully signed by the Governor.

Below are pieces of legislation I sponsored in the 2024-2025 session that will strengthen our communities.

### Increased Fines for Passing Stopped School Bus

**Bill Number:** A.3120-A

**What it does:** Increases the maximum possible fine for passing a stopped school bus from \$1,000 to \$1,500 when witnessed by a police officer.

**Why it's important:** Motorists continue to ignore the flashing lights and "STOP" arms of stopped school buses. Just this past April, a driver in Fayetteville attempted to pass a stopped bus on the right side of the bus, nearly hitting a 5-year-old. This bill complements the recently extended law, originally sponsored by Assemblyman Magnarelli, authorizing the use of cameras to combat this violation. If signed into law, drivers who are caught by police passing a stopped school bus 3 or more times within 3 years will face a maximum penalty of a \$1,500 fine, or 180-days in jail.

**Legislation:** Passed the Assembly and the Senate, awaits Governor's approval.



### More Oversight of the Regional Market

**Bill Number:** A.7081-B

**What it does:** Reforms the operations of the Central New York Regional Market Authority.

**Why it's important:** This bill was passed as a result of the recent audit of the Regional Market by the State Comptroller and the overall condition of the Market's facilities. If signed into law, it looks to provide more oversight by giving Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse additional seats on the Market's board, requires a majority of the board be present to take votes, and requires the Authority to work with the State Dept. of Agriculture and Markets to develop a plan for the Market. It also requires the Market to provide a detailed accounting of its real estate holdings and requires it to adopt a new and stricter code of ethics.

**Legislation:** Passed the Assembly and the Senate, awaiting action by the Governor.

### Protecting Our Cultural Organizations

Preserving cultural organizations that helped create our Central New York community is important. These institutions survived for decades and now require renovations and upgrades, all of which create fiscal need.

In the last few years, Assemblyman Magnarelli helped secure over \$1.2 million for the Landmark Theatre in Syracuse to fix its roof and façade, to renovate its vestibule and restrooms and to partially restore the auditorium. The state also designated \$2 million in 2021 to refurbish the marquee and replace the auditorium seating.

The Onondaga Historical Association recently began working on a renovation project with \$3 million Assemblyman Magnarelli helped secure. The renovations will include new heating and cooling systems, environmental controls, improvements to its security system and staff areas, as well as making the exhibit and community spaces more user friendly.

"Preserving the history and culture of our community is an extremely important task," said Assemblyman Magnarelli. "These institutions served Central New York for many years, and now we must make sure that they can continue to do so for our coming generations."



# ESS REPORT

## OUR COMMUNITIES



### Seatbelts Required on Charter Buses

**Bill Number:** A.8557

**What it does:** Requires passengers on charter buses to wear seatbelts.

**Why it's important:** This bill was passed in response to the September 2023 charter bus crash in Orange County that killed 2 adult chaperones accompanying a group of Long Island students to a band camp and other recent crashes involving charter buses. If signed into law, it will require anyone 8 and up to wear a seatbelt if available. Passengers who don't will be subject to a \$50 fine. In the case of children, the ticket will go to the parent or guardian accompanying the child.

**Legislation:** Passed the Assembly and the Senate, awaiting action by the Governor.

### Hiring at Hancock International Airport

**Bill Number:** A.7657-A

**What it does:** Amends the Civil Service Law to help the Syracuse Regional Airport Authority (SRAA) hire essential workers.

**Why it's important:** The safe and efficient operation of Hancock International Airport is critical to our economy. Like many employers, the SRAA is facing difficulty recruiting, especially for highly specialized, aviation specific positions. Currently, the SRAA can only hire people for these positions on a "provisional" basis where candidates then have to wait years sometimes to take a civil service test and receive permanent employment. This makes it very difficult for the SRAA to hire from a very finite pool of candidates. If signed into law, the bill will streamline the hiring process to ensure Hancock Airport is properly staffed.

**Legislation:** Passed the Assembly and the Senate, awaits Governor's approval.



### Regulating Limousines

**Bill Number:** A.3102

**What it does:** Requires that stretch limousines be retired from service after 10 years or 350,000 miles.

**Why it's important:** This bill was passed in response to the 2018 Schoharie limousine crash that killed 20 people and led to the convening of the Stretch Limousine Safety Task Force, which is supportive of this legislation. It will enhance protections for limousine passengers across the State and help to prevent further tragedies.

**Legislation:** Signed into law by Governor Hochul (Chapter 56) as part of the 2024 State Budget.

### Faster Response During a Mental Health Crisis

**Bill Number:** A.8490

**What it does:** Allows Mobile Mental Health Crisis Response Teams to use "Green Lights" on their vehicles when responding to a behavioral health crisis.

**Why it's important:** Allowing emergency vehicles to use flashing green lights when responding to a call will help save lives and ensure the safety of emergency personnel. Green lights are used to alert the community when trained mental health crisis response teams are en route to an emergency and alert drivers to pull over to allow emergency vehicles to pass through. This will allow first responders to better meet the needs of the communities they serve.

**Legislation:** Passed the Assembly and the Senate, and was signed into law by Governor Hochul. Took effect on June 6, 2024.



# Focusing on Middle-Class Families and Investing in Our Future

The recently passed 2024-2025 state budget focuses on middle-class families and strengthening programs that improve our neighborhoods, combat climate change, safeguard our environment, support our schools and protect our children.

- Passed the Climate Change Superfund Act to hold big polluters accountable (A.3351-B). Companies significantly contributing to the buildup of greenhouse gas emissions would pay into the Climate Change Adaptation Fund, which funds upgraded infrastructure to help mitigate the damage of climate change.
- Over \$2.5 billion was secured to protect the environment, including \$500 million to support clean water infrastructure and \$400 million for the Environmental Protection Fund.
- The state is requiring firearm manufacturers to ensure their products cannot be converted with rapid-fire modification devices (A.10053-A)
- Measures were passed to prevent retail theft and violence against workers. Tax credits will be provided to small businesses to support anti-theft measures. Penalties increased for those who shoplift, assault retail workers or foster the sale of stolen goods.
- \$35 million was provided to organizations statewide working to eliminate hate crimes. In addition, the description of what offenses can be considered hate crimes expanded.
- Passed legislation to protect children on social media. The SAFE for Kids Act (Ch. 120 of 2024) prohibits social media sites from using an addictive algorithm to deliver content to children without parental permission. The New York Child Data Protection Act (Ch. 121 of 2024) prohibits internet companies from collecting, using, sharing, processing or selling children's data without parental consent. Legislation (A. 6789-B) protects children from online abuse by requiring social media companies to disclose their policies on hate speech, racism, disinformation, extremism and threats of violence.



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ASSEMBLYMAN  
**MAGNARELLI**

*Working for You*

## CNY Veterans Parade and Expo

**Saturday, November 9, 2024**

NYS Fairgrounds

Parade at noon • Expo 9 am – 2 pm

Free Admission & Parking

**Together we can  
Thank Our Troops!**

For more information, email  
[cnyveteransparadeandexpo@yahoo.com](mailto:cnyveteransparadeandexpo@yahoo.com) or call (315) 428-9651

**CNYVeteransParade.org**

