

Helping Us Focus on What Matters:

For too long a loophole in state law allowed telemarketers to continue to harass customers via text message, even if they had registered on the National Do Not Call Registry. These little annoyances can add up to distract us and take time away from what really matters. To correct that, Mike Norris and his colleagues across the aisle worked together to pass a new law banning the practice (A.6040).

If you haven't already signed up for the National Do Not Call Registry, you can do so at:

<https://www.donotcall.gov/>

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A Special Legislative Update

From Our
Assemblyman
MIKE NORRIS

You can learn more about how Mike
is helping us live our best lives – and
prepare for a better future!

Inside!

Last year women across New York State
faced many challenges, but also marked
**the 100th anniversary of ratification of the
19th Amendment** – a historic achievement
that everyone should celebrate with pride.



Looking Out for Us:



Identity theft continues to be a growing problem, especially for New York's elderly. To address the problem, Mike Norris voted in support with colleagues across the aisle in both houses to pass legislation to expand the definition of elder abuse to include identity theft (A.1994).

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the desperate need for reforming the way aging New Yorkers are treated under the law. To ensure they have a greater voice, Mike Norris voted in support of the omnibus reform package known as the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Reform Act (A.5436). This legislation would increase access to the ombudsman and require more follow up for seniors' complaints. It also requires ombudsman access to be included as part of pandemic preparation plans, among other provisions.

Helping Us Succeed:

As the Chair of the Assembly Minority Conference's Learning for Work Task Force, Mike Norris has been working with educators and employers to identify ways to help create jobs and get people back to work. He knows there should be no barriers for employment and, as such, he voted in support of a bill to encourage industrial and construction fields to seek more women for apprenticeship agreements (A.7498).

To further encourage women to pursue innovative and growing career paths in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), Mike Norris voted in support of a bill to conduct a study of this important issue so our future innovators are more representative of our population at large (A.530).



Living Our Best, Healthiest Lives:

One thing we were all reminded of during the pandemic was how important our health is. To better ensure women have the best healthcare, Mike Norris voted in support of important pieces of public education legislation on women's health conditions, including:

Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) is the most common cause of female infertility, affecting 1 in 10 women (over 6.1 million women). This session, a bill was passed to raise awareness and outreach for PCOS (A.5979), and it passed with Mike's support.

Preeclampsia is a serious medical condition that can result any time after the 20th week of pregnancy that results in a woman's blood pressure rising to levels so high it can lead to organ damage, strokes or seizures, premature birth, or even death. This condition affects roughly five percent of all pregnancies, yet, with medical treatment, can be detected early on or prevented altogether. Sadly, this was not the case for new mother Lian Shalala Gravelle, who died shortly after giving birth to twins from complications resulting from preeclampsia. This bill is named "Lian's Law" in her honor, and Mike voted in her memory to help protect all families from experiencing such devastation by providing women with greater awareness and outreach for preeclampsia (A.6531).

Making New York Safer:

A longtime domestic violence prevention advocate, Mike Norris is sponsoring legislation to address a dilemma faced by many parents who have been victims of domestic violence – child custody. Known as Melinda's Law, the bill would protect victims of domestic violence from having their children taken away if they report the domestic violence to authorities (A.4754). Mike Norris is also the sponsor of legislation that would assist victims of domestic violence and human trafficking by requiring information and resources to be posted in public restrooms along the Thruway, at state campgrounds and parks, and in public buildings (A.3790)

Mike Norris joined colleagues across the aisle to modernize the legal code as it redefines rape to ensure that more women get justice if they are subjected to criminal violence, including forcible sexual acts (A.6319).

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For help with any state issue, please contact Assemblyman Mike Norris: