



COMMUNITY NEWS

from Assemblyman

J. GARY PRETLOW

89th Assembly District



The 2022 Legislative Session was truly remarkable, my colleagues and I passed legislation to improve the lives of New Yorkers throughout the state. We continue to do our part to ensure that our great state does not remain stagnant and continues to improve. Even though we accomplished a lot this year, we are not done and will continue to pass legislation that will assist in bettering quality of life for citizens throughout the state. This newsletter will highlight some of the improvements we made this year.

I am pleased to deliver information that is important to the 89th Assembly District. I thank you in advance for taking the time to read this newsletter and please know that my staff and I are always available to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have.



NEW YORK STATE PROTECTS ABORTION RIGHTS

Abortion has been legal under New York State law since 1970 – three years before the Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion throughout the country. Because the right is codified in New York State law, federal decisions to limit access to abortion will not impact New York State.

As abortion rights are under attack in certain states and at the federal level, we are fighting to preserve and strengthen these rights in New York State. Our state will ensure that abortion remains safe, legal, and accessible for all who need it.

SAFE ABORTION ACCESS FOR ALL IN NEW YORK STATE

- Abortion access is available for New Yorkers and for those coming from outside of New York State. You do not have to be a New York State resident to receive care here.
- Medication abortion and in-clinic abortion is available in New York State. You can speak to a provider about your options, and your privacy will be protected every step of the way.
- In New York, you can get an abortion up to and including 24 weeks of pregnancy. After 24 weeks, you can still get an abortion if your health or pregnancy is at risk.

To locate providers please visit https://www.ny.gov/abortion-new-york-state-know-your-rights/safe-abortion-access-all#abortion_providers. For any additional information, please give our office a call.

New York State's Record Setting Mobile Sports Wagering Tax Revenue

New York State announced that in under six months of operation, New York's mobile sports wagering program has far surpassed every other state, as well as the Division of the Budget's FY 2022 revenue projections. According to New York State data, the State has generated more than \$302 million in tax revenue from mobile sports wagering since January 8, 2022 - with the entire amount directed for education aid, youth sports and responsible gaming programs. Additionally, the ninth and final operator in New York State - Bally Bet - was authorized to accept wagers on July 7, making the Empire State's latest foray in regulated gaming fully operational.

According to reports, New York has collected more in mobile sports wagering revenue in six months than the total sports wagering revenue—both mobile and on-premises—that any other state has generated over several years. Through May 2022, Pennsylvania has collected \$265.6 million in sports wagering tax revenue since November 2018, and New Jersey has generated \$237.1 million since June 2018.



In January, New York State projected \$249 million in mobile sports wagering tax revenue (including \$200 million in already-collected license fees) in FY 2022, while total collections were \$361 million (including the \$200 million in license fees). As of April, New York State projects \$357 million in FY 2023, \$465 million in FY 2024, \$493 million in FY 2025, \$509 million in FY 2026 and \$518 million in FY 2027.

Strengthening New York's Gun Laws

New York State is committed to protecting public safety, ending gun violence, and combatting the rise of domestic terrorism. The FY 2023 enacted budget invests in bold initiatives that will strengthen gun violence prevention efforts, change our public safety laws to make our state safer and more just, and protect victims of hate crimes and domestic violence.



Comprehensive Ten-Bill Package Closes Critical Gun Law Loopholes Exposed in Tragic Shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde

- Legislation S.9458/A.10503 bars purchase of semiautomatic rifles by anyone under age 21 by requiring a license.
- Legislation S.9407-B/A.10497 prohibits purchase of body armor with exception of those in specified professions.
- Legislation S.9113-A./A.10502 expands list of people who can file Extreme Risk Protection Orders and requires law enforcement to file ERPOs under specified set of circumstances.
- Legislation S.4511-A/A.7865-A strengthens crime reporting by creating policy for social media networks to report hateful conduct on their platforms.

- Legislation S.9465/A.10501 creates a new Task Force on social media and violent extremism.
- Legislation S.9456/A.10504 closes “other gun” loophole by expanding the definition of a “firearm” to include any weapon not defined in the Penal Law that is designed or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosive.
- Legislation S.9229-A/A.10428-A eliminates the grandfathering of large capacity ammunition feeding devices that were lawfully possessed prior to the enactment of the Safe Act or manufactured prior to 1994.
- Legislation S.89-B/A.6716-A creates the crimes of making a threat of mass harm and aggravated making a threat of mass harm.
- Legislation S.4116-A/A.7926-A requires the Division of Criminal Justice Services to certify or decline to certify that microstamping-enabled pistols are technologically viable and if certified as viable, to establish programs and processes for the implementation of such technology; and establishes the crime of the unlawful sale of a non-microstamping-enabled firearm.
- Legislation S.4970-A/A.1023-A requires enhanced reporting by law enforcement to the state and federal gun databases. Agencies must report seized or recovered guns to the criminal gun clearinghouse; participate in the ATF’s collective data sharing program; and enter the make, model, caliber, and serial number of the gun into the national crime information center.

NYS SUPPORTS NEW PARENTS BY REQUIRING BREASTFEEDING ACCOMMODATIONS AT AIRPORTS

New York state passed legislation S.3866/A.7813 to support new parents traveling in New York by requiring certain airports to provide a space for breastfeeding people away from public view. This bill amends current Public Health Law to ensure there are nursing-friendly airports that have lactation accommodations behind the airport security screening area.

One of the biggest challenges for new parents is finding a space to feed their children. This is a fight that many have had to deal with for many years, and only recently have they been able to secure the rights and accommodations that they deserve. By signing this into law, we will continue to make New York a better place to safely and securely raise young children.

Far too many public places lack appropriate accommodations for people who breastfeed to feed their children. This law builds on major actions taken in New York State to support new parents, including establishing lactation rooms in places of employment and public facilities, which allow parents to nurse their children and pump breast milk.



Equality Amendment

The Supreme Court has failed women and it has failed to protect the rights of Americans. But New York will not. Passing the Equality Amendment is the first step to ensuring that protections for women’s reproductive health care and equal rights for all New Yorkers are not just protected under the law, but are enshrined in our state constitution.

For years, here in the Assembly Majority when we would pass the Reproductive Health Act, we were told it was unnecessary and that Roe was settled law. We did not listen, and I’m glad we didn’t. We passed the RHA into law in 2019, guaranteeing women in New York the right to make choices over their reproductive health care. And this year, my colleagues and I passed legislation to protect the medical providers who offer those critical services.

Year after year we have fought to make our state a better place for all New Yorkers, and to protect the rights of the marginalized and the most vulnerable. We will not stop. We will continue fighting to move New York forward, not backward.



89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



New York State Announces Effort to Prevent Underage Drinking and Drunk Driving During Summer Concert Season

New York State announced that state Department of Motor Vehicles investigators are conducting enforcement initiatives to stop the use of fake IDs for purchasing alcohol at summer concerts. Known as Operation Prevent, the effort also includes investigators from the State Liquor Authority, State Police, State Parks Police, and local law enforcement. During the campaign, enforcement sweeps are being conducted at venues across the state.

Operation Prevent enforcement sweeps will be conducted at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Northwell Health at Jones Beach Theater, Darien Lake Performing Arts Center, CMAC in Canandaigua, and the Lakeview Amphitheater in Syracuse, as well as other locations where underage concertgoers are likely to gather.

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CLIP AND RETURN



Your questions or comments are important to me. If you have any concerns or issues you would like to discuss with me, please indicate and return to:

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from Assemblyman
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SUMMER 2022

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