



NEWS

March 2019

From Bill Magnarelli

District: 333 East Washington St., Syracuse, NY 13202 (315) 428-9651 Albany: LOB 837, Albany, 12248 (518) 455-4826
129th Assembly District Magnarw@nyassembly.gov

Stop-Arm Cameras Legislation Passes the Assembly

Legislation allowing the use of Stop-Arm cameras on school buses to enforce laws against illegal passing by motorists was approved by the New York State Assembly on March 20.

I have sponsored and advocated for this bill (A-4950-A), for the past 6 years to protect our students.

Speeding, distracted drivers are a hazard to everyone, but especially around school buses. Allowing municipalities to place cameras on the Stop-Arms of school buses and issue fines for violations is a program that will help alleviate parents' worries when they send their children off to school.

The New York Association for Pupil Transportation (NYAPT) determined that approximately 50,000 motorists pass stopped school buses daily. This is an average of 6.2 passes per day per school bus. More than a dozen other states that successfully implemented this technology have found that it drastically decreased violations by as much as 50 percent in the first year of operation.

Under the legislation, municipalities may authorize the use of Stop-Arm cameras in coordination with school districts. Motorists who are caught illegally passing school buses by the cameras will be subject to a \$250 fine. The fine money collected will provide municipalities with the funds needed to cover the cost of purchasing and operating the cameras.

After this bill passed in the Assembly, Michael Sweeney of Westmoreland School District, President of the New York Association for Pupil Transportation said: "The State Assembly's passage of this Stop Arm Camera legislation is historic and a goal we have had as an Association for over 10 years. Its passage will help us to deter motorists who pass our stopped school buses as many as 50,000 times per day," he said. "Our children are put in danger every time a motorist passes a stopped school bus. This bill will increase the safety of our children."

The bill is currently under consideration in the Senate Transportation Committee.

William H. Magnarelli



Join Assemblyman Bill Magnarelli for an electronics recycling event



9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, March 30

Center of Progress Building

NY's Fairgrounds

581 State Fair Boulevard, Syracuse

Enter Gate 7, Exit Gate 2

Volunteers will unload vehicles



Thank you to co-sponsors



Recyclable items include:

- computers
- televisions
- tablets
- monitors
- cameras
- copiers
- fax machines
- scanners
- printers
- VCRs and DVD players
- cable boxes
- digital music players
- electronic or video game consoles
- cell phones
- audio/video (AV) equipment
- fitness trackers and smartwatches
- GPS devices



Items not accepted include:

- large kitchen appliances
- air conditioners
- dehumidifiers
- batteries
- any liquids or powders
- yard equipment
- CDs, DVDs and VHS and cassette tapes
- fluorescent lamps
- smoke detectors

Assemblyman Bill Magnarelli

For more information on this or any other community issue, please contact my office.

Room 840, State Office Building, 333 East Washington Street, Syracuse, NY 13202 | 315-428-9651

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Transportation Hearings

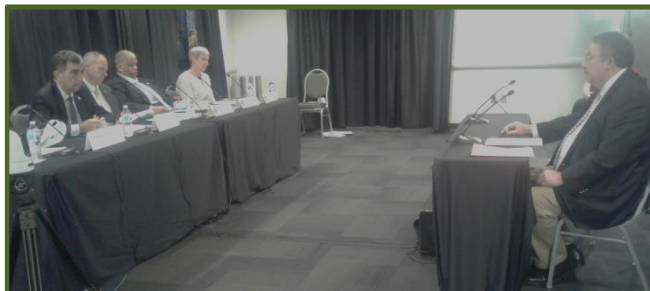
Creating a dedicated and sustainable new source of revenue to help fund CENTRO and other Upstate Transit Systems is one of the budget proposals that Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli supports. The issue was the topic of a joint NYS Assembly and Senate Transportation Hearing held in the SRC Arena at Onondaga Community College on Friday, March 22nd. It had also been discussed at a previous joint hearing in Buffalo on March 15th.

Assemblyman Magnarelli, Chair of the New York State Transportation Committee, is supportive of the Assembly Budget bill which includes a 6% surcharge on car rentals outside of the Metropolitan Commuter Transportation District. The revenue would be used to create a new, sustainable revenue stream dedicated to funding Upstate Transit Systems. If accepted in the final State Budget, it is expected to provide \$11 million in 2019-2020 and \$22 million annually each financial year after.

“Transit issues in Upstate New York have long been overlooked. It is time to improve transit systems that so many of our residents rely on,” said Assemblyman Magnarelli. “Ensuring adequate and sustainable funding for Upstate Transit is one of my top priorities for the current budget.”



Assemblyman Magnarelli speaking at the joint hearing in Buffalo .



Rick Lee, CEO of the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CENTRO), presented at the joint hearing in Syracuse.



Transportation Talk

Assemblyman Magnarelli, Chair of the NYS Assembly Transportation Committee, met with officials from regional transportation authorities to learn about the issues affecting each region of the state. Pictured left are: Bill Carpenter - President of NYPTA and CEO of the Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority; Naomi Klein - Director of Planning, Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation; Rick Lee - CEO of Centro; Carm Basile - CEO of the Capital District Transportation Authority in Albany.

Protecting Union Call Center Jobs

Assemblyman Magnarelli proudly stood with members of the Communications Workers of America (CWA) to support call center jobs. The Save NY Call Center Jobs Coalition urges the passage of a bill that would require call center operators in New York to notify the State Department of Labor if they intend to move at least 30 percent of their call volume out of the State. The Assembly has passed the bill for the past 2 years. Unfortunately, the AT&T call center in Syracuse is being closed and those jobs will be moved to Florida.



Assemblyman Magnarelli stood with CWA members, CWA President Chris Ryan, Councilor Joe Driscoll, County Legislator Peggy Chase, Assemblymember Pam Hunter, Labor Leader AnneMarie Taliercio, County Legislator Linda Ervin and Dewitt Town Board member Joe Chiarenza.

Albany Advocacy

As the end of the budget process nears, many advocacy groups are meeting with Assemblyman Magnarelli in his Albany office to discuss how the NYS Budget will impact the services they provide.



Derrick Murry, Executive Vice President, and Amy Ellingworth, Director of Finance, from the Syracuse Community Health Center (SCHC) met with Assemblyman Magnarelli to discuss how funding changes may affect their ability to provide quality health care services. SCHC is committed to those who might otherwise be excluded from the health care system, while remaining cost effective, efficient, and competitive.



Representatives from Refugee Resettlement Agencies of Syracuse discussed how the budget may affect their ability to provide English language classes, translators, housing, and medical care for newly resettled refugees in the Syracuse area.



Literacy CNY had representatives meet with Assemblyman Magnarelli to discuss why the state budget needs to continue supporting programs that help adults learn to read. Literacy is directly linked to the ability to break the cycle of poverty and create stronger communities.



Members of the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) visited Assemblyman Magnarelli and discussed how the budget should preserve union benefits. NYSUT represents classroom teachers, faculty and professional staff, school bus drivers, custodians, secretaries, cafeteria workers, teacher assistants and aides, nurses and healthcare technicians.



Representatives from local libraries met with Assemblyman Magnarelli to discuss the growing role that local libraries are having in our communities and the cost of such growth. Libraries will also play a vital role in the coming Census taking, which begins next year.



Luck of the Irish

On Saturday, March 16th, Assemblyman Magnarelli was pleased to march in the annual Syracuse St. Patrick's Day Parade. It should also be noted that for a full week he was known as "Assemblyman Magnareilly." The annual parade was a great success, as it has been since its inception. The Assemblyman looks forward to marching again next year.

2019 Constituent Survey Results

I am pleased to provide the results of the survey my office mailed out in January to every household in the 129th Assembly District to hear directly from constituents regarding proposed legislation and initiatives in this year's proposed budget. Below are the tabulated responses from the 1,821 surveys received, representing about a 6% return. The results are also tabulated to reflect the overall responses received from constituents residing in the City of Syracuse, the Town of Geddes and the Town of Van Buren. The percentages may not add up to 100% because some respondents did not answer every question. If you took the time to return your survey – Thank you. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about this or any other issue, please call my office.

William B. Magnarelli

1. In general, do you support the legalization of marijuana for recreational use in New York State?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	52%	48%
• Syracuse	56%	44%
• Geddes	48%	52%
• Van Buren	45%	55%

2. In order to reduce plastic pollution in our waterways and protect the environment, should New York enact:

	A-Total Ban	B-Fee on each bag	C-No Action
• District Wide	43%	18%	39%
• Syracuse	48%	18%	35%
• Geddes	40%	21%	36%
• Van Buren	37%	16%	47%

3. Do you support online sports gambling in New York State?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	37%	63%
• Syracuse	43%	57%
• Geddes	36%	64%
• Van Buren	33%	56%

4. Would you support the Green New Deal, which would make New York State's electricity 100% carbon-neutral by 2040 and could ultimately eliminate the State's carbon footprint?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	63%	38%
• Syracuse	67%	34%
• Geddes	61%	39%
• Van Buren	56%	44%

5. Do you support reforming of the State's bail system and guidelines for pretrial detention, including the elimination of the cash bail for individuals charged with misdemeanors and nonviolent felonies?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	56%	44%
• Syracuse	61%	39%
• Geddes	52%	48%
• Van Buren	46%	54%

6. Do you support the New York Health Act, a plan to provide universal healthcare coverage for all New Yorkers?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	54%	46%
• Syracuse	57%	43%
• Geddes	49%	51%
• Van Buren	44%	56%

7. In regard to the I-81 Viaduct Project, the State should choose:

	A-Maintain Interstate (Hybrid or Rebuild)	B-Community Grid
• District Wide	58%	42%
• Syracuse	53%	47%
• Geddes	66%	34%
• Van Buren	68%	32%

8. Would you support a ban on the sale of favored e-cigarettes?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	68%	32%
• Syracuse	70%	30%
• Geddes	64%	36%
• Van Buren	63%	38%

9. Do you support a state tax funded, small-donor matching system to finance New York State political campaigns?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	26%	74%
• Syracuse	33%	68%
• Geddes	21%	79%
• Van Buren	17%	83%

10. Since 2011, NYS has had a property tax cap limiting yearly increases to 2% or the rate of inflation (whichever is lower) for local governments and school districts. Do you support making this permanent?

	Yes	No
• District Wide	76%	24%
• Syracuse	74%	26%
• Geddes	78%	22%
• Van Buren	76%	24%

About New York State Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli

Assemblyman William Magnarelli represents the 129th Assembly District, which includes the Northside, Westside, Eastwood Valley and Downtown areas of the City of Syracuse, Syracuse University area, Outer Comstock, as well as the towns of Geddes and Van Buren. He first won election in 1998 for an open Assembly seat and has been reelected since then. During his terms in office, Assemblyman Magnarelli has focused his efforts on bringing more jobs to Central New York, lowering taxes, providing our children a better education at every level, improving our healthcare and keeping our families safe. For more information, contact Assemblyman Magnarelli's District Office at (315) 428-9651 or visit <http://www.assembly.state.ny.us/magnarelli>.