

# NYS ASSEMBLYMAN BILL MAGNARELLI

2019 Progress Report

#### Dear Neighbor:

I am pleased to provide you with my annual Progress Report highlighting the New York State Budget, important legislation which passed this Session that impacts our area, the 2019 Constituent Survey and its results as well as other important matters affecting the 129th Assembly District.

Earlier this year, Speaker Carl Heastie appointed me Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee. This Committee is charged with the responsibility of reviewing legislation and overseeing the State's management of all types of transportation systems within the State. I welcome the opportunity and challenges of chairing this important committee.

This year we were able to pass legislation which continues to improve the lives of working men and women in our state: the property tax cap is now permanent; a record amount of funding was earmarked for our schools; early voting and same-day voter registration were enacted; and historic climate change legislation was passed. New York continues to lead the way on these and so many other important issues.

In addition, my office has answered the needs of the people of the 129th District by holding an electronic recycling event, paper shredding event, volunteer fair and the CNY Veterans Parade this past year.

I am honored to serve as your Assemblyman. I am committed to serving my constituents and encourage you to call my office if you have any questions about State Government Agencies, or community matters. My office is available to assist you with these concerns.

I hope that you will take the time to read the 2019 Progress Report. It is filled with important information concerning our community.

Bill Magnarell





## 2019 PROGRESS RE

#### **March 2019 Constituent Survey Results**

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

Yes: 52% No: 48%

#### **2019 Survey Update**

 Although the legalization of marijuana for recreational use did not pass, possession was decriminalized for 2 oz. or less.



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

A: Total Ban of plastic bags 43%

B: Fee on each bag 18%

C: No Action 39%

2. The Governor signed legislation on Earth Day that bans the sale of single-use plastic bags in New York beginning in March 2020. Counties or cities will be permitted to charge a five cent fee for single-use paper bags. Three cents from the fee will go to the Environmental Protection Fund, while the other two cents will go to the locality to pay for distribution of reusable bags.

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

Yes: 37% No: 63%

3. The Online Sports Betting legislation passed the Senate but not the Assembly this year.

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: 63% No: 37%

4. The Legislature passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act which focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 85% by 2050 and having 70% of the state's electricity from renewable sources by 2030.



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: 56% No: 44%

5. The State Legislature eliminated cash bail for most misdemeanor and non-violent felony offenses; the law goes into effect in January 2020. New York becomes the third state to stop using cash bail. Once enacted, most people charged with a misdemeanor and non-violent felonies will be automatically released to appear in court on a scheduled date.

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

Yes: 54% No: 46%

 Universal healthcare for all New Yorkers did not pass this year. However, the Assembly continues to standby the proposal.

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

A: Maintain Interstate (Hybrid or Rebuild) 58%

B: Community Grid 42%

7. The New York State Department of Transportation chose the Community Grid as its preferred option to replace I-81.

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

Yes: 68% No: 32%

8. Legislation banning the sale of flavored e-cigarettes did not pass either house.

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

Yes: 26% No: 74%

The New York State Assembly and Senate passed legislation that establishes a Commission charged with creating a small donor public financing program for statewide and state legislative offices by the end of 2019.

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: 76% No: 24%

10. New York State's property tax cap is now permanent. The tax cap has already saved taxpayers \$24.4 billion since it was first implemented in 2012. The tax cap restricts the annual growth of a local government or school district's tax levy to 2%, or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower.



#### **Economic Development Putting Funds to Work in CNY**

Over the last few years, a number of important economic development and community improvement projects in the 129th Assembly District were initiated with state grant funds secured by Assemblyman Magnarelli. For example, in the City of Syracuse, funds totaling \$500,000 were secured to make structural and other improvements to the Everson Museum. Designed by renowned architect, I. M. Pei, this iconic structure was opened in 1968 and continues to draw visitors from all over to its permanent and temporary exhibits and community events. Also Downtown, \$3 million was made available via a State funded loan for renovations to the headquarters of local tech company, TCG Player – including its signature dragon.

Located on Warren Street, TCG Player is a locally-grown company that employs 235 people with a goal to employ over 1,000 by 2023. The company's Founder and CEO is Chedy Hampson, a 1992 graduate of Corcoran High School in the Syracuse City School District.

Grant funds in the amount of \$500,000 have also been secured for the Museum of Science and Technology (MOST), located in Armory Square, which will be used to make much needed structural improvements to this important community treasure. Children from all over Onondaga County and throughout Central NY visit this museum annually for hands-on scientific and technological learning, and to visit the IMAX Theater.

In the Village of Solvay, \$250,000 in grant funds was secured for an aquatic spray park and other upgrades to the Gertrude Park swimming pool facility. The spray pool is scheduled to open in the summer of 2020.

The Town of Van Buren received \$300,000 for its highway department's salt shed, which will be shared with the Town of Geddes, saving both towns' tax dollars. Details of the shared services agreement are currently being worked out. Funds were also obtained for playground equipment at Van Buren Elementary School and the Town of Van Buren Central Park.





#### **Transportation Budget Highlights**

The legislature passed an on-time \$175.5 billion 2019-2020 State Budget. For the ninth consecutive year, the budget is balanced and holds spending growth at 2%.

#### Supporting upstate transportation

As Assembly Transportation Chair, I worked with my colleagues to see that the budget provides \$226.5 million for upstate transit systems – an \$8.8 million increase over the executive proposal – by expanding the surcharge on car rentals. The fee raises revenue to support upstate transit systems, including CENTRO.

#### Making our roads stronger and safer

To make sure Central New York residents can get where they need to go safely, the budget provides \$438.1 million for the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPs) and \$39.7 million for the Marchiselli Program, which helps municipalities complete needed road and bridge maintenance projects. Also, \$65 million was later appropriated for the "Extreme Winter Recovery" program to help our local governments repair winter road damage.

# Sponsored Legislation Passed

The following legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Magnarelli, passed both the Assembly and Senate and is now awaiting the Governor's signature.

A.7914-A: Authorizes the Syracuse City School District to establish a regional STEAM high school and provides the needed authorizations to fund the renovation of Central High School to house the new school.

A.4950-B: Authorizes municipalities to use cameras to ticket motorists that illegally pass stopped school buses. The fine is \$250 for a 1st violation, \$275 for a 2nd and \$300 for a 3rd+ within 18 months. Using cameras will help reduce the estimated 50,000 illegal school bus passes that happen daily in NY.

A.1859-A: "Zombie Property Remediation Act of 2019", allows municipalities to bring an action in court to compel lenders to complete foreclosures on abandoned "zombie properties". This allows municipalities to get these properties back in the hands of responsible owners and back on tax rolls sooner.

A.1851: Allows police to write tickets to parents/caregivers who leave children under 10 unattended in cars. The fine is \$50 for 1st violation, \$100 for a 2nd and \$250 for a 3rd+ within 18 months. It provides police with a means of enforcement against this dangerous practice without resorting to a criminal charge.

**A.3860:** Reduces paperwork required of farmers registering farm vehicles. Farmers will now only have to indicate the "point of origin" on a vehicle's registration attachment, not every potential destination.

**A.7789:** Increases the insurance coverage required for limousine carriers to \$1.5 million for bodily injury, death and destruction of property.

A.6916-B: Streamlines the process for vendors at the NYS Fair to apply for their liquor licenses. Vendors will be allowed to get one license to sell beer, wine and spirits. Previously, vendors had to apply for separate licenses for each type of beverage.

### **Legislation Passed: Making A Difference**

Saving lives and protecting our loved ones is the motivation for the following legislation I sponsored. Two of the bills I carried in the 2019-2020 Session awaiting the Governor's signature do just that – protect our children.

- A.1851 Prohibits a child under the age of 10 from being left unattended in a motor vehicle under certain conditions to prevent them from being harmed in hot cars.
- A.4950-B Allows cameras to be used to detect and ticket drivers who ignore "stop-arms" on school buses, putting our children in harm's way.

During my tenure as your Assemblyman, I am proud to say I have sponsored legislation that has made a difference, especially to the young or vulnerable.

#### Important Laws I Previously Sponsored:

Amber Alert (2002): Increases the potential for rapidly identifying and locating suspected child abductors by broadcasting pertinent information to the greatest number of people in the shortest possible time.

Shaken Baby Syndrome (2004): Requires hospitals, birth centers, secondary school parenting classes and all NYS inmates to receive education and information on the dangers of "shaken baby syndrome."

Missing Vulnerable Adult Alert (2011): Modeled after Amber Alert, this system similarly broadcasts early and timely warnings of missing vulnerable adults with diminished mental abilities or physical impairments.



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Lest We Forget

**ASSEMBLYMAN MAGNARELLI** Working for You

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**CNY Veterans Parade and Expo** Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019 · NYS Fairgrounds Parade at noon • Expo: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Together we can **Thank Our Troops!** 

www.cnyveteransparade.org

- **WWI Mobile Museum**
- **Red Cross Blood Drive**
- Parade with more than 80 veterans organizations, military groups and high school marching bands
- Veterans of all conflicts since WWII
- Expo includes organizations and educational institutions of interest to veterans and their families
- Displays of historical military artifacts
- Free Admission & Parking

