

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR Shelley B. Mayer

Community Update: Press Conference/Rally Against Con Ed, Mayer Bill Signed into Law, In the Community

SENATOR SHELLEY B. MAYER February 10, 2025

Dear Friends,

For many of us across the state and nation, the past several weeks have been very challenging. As an eternal optimist, and one dedicated to speaking out when I feel it is necessary, I will keep standing up for my constituents in ways both big and small. I will continue to be openly critical of many of the actions in Washington that adversely impact New Yorkers and New York State.

Every day, I hear from many of you who are struggling with utility bills from Con Edison often sharing bills that don't match actual usage and your good faith efforts to keep costs down. Your words do not go unheard. Recently, the Senate passed a utility affordability package, which includes two bills of mine that are dedicated to keeping your utility bills as low as possible. (They passed last year as well — this issue is not new to me!) **I'm having a rally/press conference this Friday in White Plains to strongly oppose the next Con Ed rate increase application**. More details below!

Last week, we commemorated International Holocaust Remembrance Day. As we confront the rise in antisemitism and other forms of hatred worldwide, it is important to reflect on the lessons of the Holocaust and ensure they are passed on to future generations. As this year marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, we honor the six million Jews and countless others who were murdered, as well as the survivors who inspire us with their strength and resilience. Let us renew our commitment to combating hatred in all forms and building a world defined by empathy and justice. You can view my remarks on the Senate floor commemorating this day.



Statement on Elon Musk's Actions

I am deeply alarmed by the actions of Elon Musk, which I believe are of questionable legality and lacking in appropriate oversight. Mr. Musk has obtained access to highly sensitive federal agencies and the personal information of millions of American citizens — without being elected to public office, or vetted and confirmed by Congress. President Trump's support of Musk's actions, including replacing officials who oppose him, is irresponsible and disregards American rights and democratic principles. I call upon everyone, specifically my Federal Republican colleagues, to do what is right and oppose these actions and stand up to safeguard American rights.

Statement on Federal Funding Freeze

Recently, we also faced the temporary freezing of federal funding by President Trump. This "pause" was deeply disturbing and caused great stress, confusion, and havoc in New York State and across the country. Any freeze of federal funding, whether temporary or permanent, will cause great harm to our communities, impacting Medicaid, hospitals, Head Start programs, veterans programs and more. I applaud New York State Attorney General Letitia James and other state Attorneys General, who promptly filed suit challenging this order. I am appreciative of everyone who spoke out, contacted their representatives, used social media to make their voices heard, or were outspoken in other ways, to ensure the Administration heard the outcry and withdrew the memorandum, although not the underlying Executive Order, that threatened NYS programs. The temporary freezing was stopped by a Federal Judge - hopefully there will be a permanent rejection of this order.

Know Your Rights In an Encounter with ICE

Finally, ICE agents have been present throughout the state, including in Westchester County. I urge everyone to familiarize themselves with the rights you have to protect yourself and your loved ones.

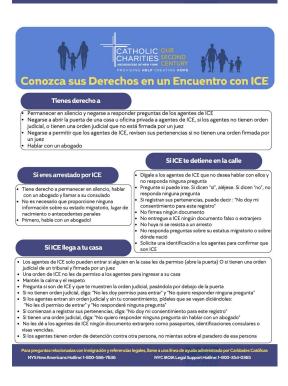


YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO

Remain silent and refuse to answer any questions from ICE agents Refuse to open the door of a private home or office to ICE agents if the agents have no warrant, or have a warrant that is not signed by a judge Refuse to let ICE agents look at your belongings if they do not have a warrant signed by a judge South ken as threful. Refuse to let ICE age
 Speak to an attorney

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If I ICE agents can only enter if someone in the house gives them permission (opens the door) OR if they have a judcial warrant from a court and signed by a judge A warrant from ICE does not give agents permission to enter your home. Remain calm and respectful Aski f they are from ICE and to show you the judcial warrant by passing it under the door If they do not have a judcial warrant, say, "I do not give you permission to enter ' and 'I do not want to answer any questions'. If the agents enter without a judicial warrant or your consent, ask them to leave and say, "I do not give you permission to enter' and 'I do not give you permission to enter' and a single not averant or your consent, ask them to leave and say, "I do not give you permission to enter' and 'I do not want to any any user insistion." If the agents enter without a judical warrant or your consent, as them to leave and say, 1 do not giv you permission to enter and Public not answer any questions? If they begin to starch and the same and the same and the same and the same and the Do not give ICE agents any foreign documents such as passports, consular ids, or expired visas If the agents have an arrest warrant for someone same do not its about the person's whereabouts For Immigration-related questions and legal referrals, call a Catholic Charities managed helpline NYS New Americans Hotline: 1-800-566-7636 NYC MOIA Legal Support Hotline: 1-800-3

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If there is anything my office can assist you with, please email me at smayer@nysenate.gov

or call (914) 934-5250.

Warm regards,

Shelley B. Mayer

Senator, 37th District