



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Daniel L. Squadron

What Happened (And Didn't) in Albany

DANIEL L. SQUADRON June 18, 2016

| ISSUE: **LLC LOOPHOLE, ALBANY, GENDA, KALIEF'S LAW, ETHICS REFORM**



After a state budget that won a \$15 minimum wage and paid family leave, the end of the legislative session brought real disappointments.

The Legislature came into this year with a mandate to pass real ethics reform after the conviction of the leaders of both houses of the legislature, including **closing the LLC Loophole**, which allows unlimited, anonymous dollars to flood the political process. But Senate Republicans **blocked any movement -- even breaking their own rules**.

I was able to push issues forward, working with colleagues, the community, and advocates:

- My bills to get small businesses some **much-needed support**, and require New York State to pursue **flexible work schedules** will become law with the Governor's signature.
- The Senate Democratic Conference Policy Group I chair put forward ideas **to increase college affordability and success, take action on climate change, and support families**.
- The Senate passed my bills to combat identity theft and address infrastructure trespassing stunts. The push for these continues in the Assembly.
- I worked with colleagues across the aisle to **secure bipartisan support** for overturning *Citizens United*.

Unfortunately, closing the LLC Loophole wasn't Albany's only failure:

- The Senate Majority blocked my bill to **fix the state's broken speedy trial law**.
- Albany finally took a step forward in fixing our broken ticket law **after my long push**, but eliminated an important transparency provision we passed out of the Senate with bipartisan cooperation.
- Battery Park City residents **organized to urge a community voice** in local decision-making and support my legislation to strengthen that voice, but the Senate didn't allow a vote.
- Sadly, the Senate Majority also blocked critical progress on a number of bills, including GENDA and a measure to increase policing transparency, both of which I sponsor, and bills I've long supported, like the Dream Act, Reproductive Health Act, and strengthened rent laws.

I'll keep up the push on these issues. But now, I look forward to getting to spend more time in the district, and hearing directly from community members about community priorities. Please don't hesitate to contact my office anytime at squadron@nysenate.gov or 212-298-5565.