



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Shelley B. Mayer

Community Update: Election Reforms, Budget Forums, Vaccine Availability Alert, & more

SHELLEY B. MAYER January 29, 2021

| ISSUE: **NYS BUDGET, ELECTION REFORM, HIGHER RISK SPORTS, EDUCATION, VACCINE AVAILABILITY**

**COMMUNITY
UPDATE
1-29-2021**



Dear Friends:

I hope you and your family are staying safe during the winter months.

This week, the Westchester State Senate Delegation announced two opportunities for constituents and advocates to testify virtually about the 2021-2022 Executive Budget

proposal. Pre-registration is required to testify. [Click here](#) to register. Additional information about the Budget Forums is included below.

On Tuesday, January 26th, my Senate colleagues and I built on the election reforms we adopted [earlier this month](#) by passing a series of bills to protect New Yorkers' health and the democratic process during the pandemic. Included in this package was my bill, [S.1632](#), to allow voters to apply for absentee ballots in village elections based on concern for personal health, as was allowed in the recent primaries and general election. Read more about the full package of election reforms adopted this week in the section below.

After a great deal of activism from local families, my colleagues, and me, on Friday, January 22nd, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that counties would have the authority to decide whether "higher risk" sports such as football, wrestling, and basketball would be allowed to resume. On Wednesday, January 27th, Westchester County and other counties throughout the Hudson Valley jointly decided to authorize "higher risk" sports to proceed effective February 1, 2021 at the discretion of individual school districts. I thank Governor Andrew Cuomo and County Executive George Latimer for taking into account the physical, social, and emotional needs of students who participate in these activities, and their families. [Click here](#) for the NYS Department of Health guidance for "higher risk" sports.

On Wednesday, January 27th, Governor Cuomo lifted all orange-zone and yellow-zone micro-cluster designations and restrictions that were in place in some areas of the district and Westchester County, including Port Chester and Yonkers. Some yellow-zone restrictions remain in effect in New York City and other parts of the state. Maps of the remaining micro-cluster zones throughout the state are [available here](#). [Click here](#) for a list of restrictions for within micro-cluster designated areas.

On Thursday, January 28th, my colleagues and I hosted the Joint Legislative Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Executive Budget Proposal regarding Elementary & Secondary Education.

[Click here](#) to watch the full hearing.

This Saturday, January 30th, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, my Youth Advisory Council will be outside of the YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester for a Coat & Toiletries Drive in commemoration of the MLK Day of Service. Please join us if you are able to donate. More information about this effort is included below and a flyer is [available here](#).

As always, if there is anything my office can assist you with, please don't hesitate to email me at smayer@nysenate.gov or call (914) 934-5250.

Warm regards,

Shelley B. Mayer

State Senator

37th District

[Click here to read the full e-newsletter.](#)

RELATED LEGISLATION

2021-S1632

- Introduced
- ◦ In Committee Assembly

- In Committee Senate

- ◦ On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate

- ◦ Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor

- Signed By Governor

-

Relates to absentee voting during village elections

January 14, 2021

In Senate Committee [Elections](#)

Sponsored by [Shelley B. Mayer](#)

Do you support this bill?

2021-S2733

- Introduced

 - ◦ In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate
-

- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate

- ○ Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor

- Signed By Governor

-

Reduces the number of signatures for designating petitions

January 23, 2021

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by [Rachel May](#)

Do you support this bill?

2021-S1705A

- Introduced
- ○ In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate

- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate

- ○ Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor

- Signed By Governor

-

Authorizes party designations and nominations for all elections to be made via video teleconference or web conference

January 14, 2021

In Senate Committee [Elections](#)

Sponsored by [Michelle Hinchey](#)

Do you support this bill?

2021-S1644

- Introduced
- ○ In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate

- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate

- ○ Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor

- Signed By Governor

-

Relates to absentee voting by residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities

January 14, 2021

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by **Jeremy A. Cooney**

Do you support this bill?