



During the annual Women's History Month celebration, Miss Universe 2015 Paulina Vega was recognized for her work to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS. Also honored were community leaders (l. to r.) Sarinya Srisakul, Priscilla Carrow, Carmencita Gutierrez, Paulina Vega, Rosana Becerra and Nora Espitia.



Senator Jose Peralta presented Bertha Lewis, founder and president of The Black Institute, with the Lifetime Achievement Award during the commemoration of African-American Heritage Month. Other honorees included Barbara Jerido; Kelly Blue, Giovanna Reid; and Eartha Washington.



The Senator took part in a rally to support the call for an increase in public library funding. The Invest in Libraries rallies were a success, as City funding was increased by about \$40 million.



New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

PRSR-T-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEW YORK SENATE



**SENATOR
JOSE PERALTA**

July 2015
NEWSLETTER

District Office:
32-37 Junction Blvd.
East Elmhurst, NY 11369
Ph. (718) 205-3881
Fax (718) 205-4145

Albany Office:
415 Legislative Office Bldg.
Albany, NY 12247
Ph. (518) 455-2529

E-Mail: peralta@nysenate.gov
Website: peralta.nysenate.gov

Dear Friends:

I hope you are having a wonderful summer. As your elected official, I take great pride when achieving results for our community. This year, I continued the fight to eradicate school overcrowding, increased the number crossing guards, helped ensure more quality jobs, worked to rejuvenate Roosevelt Avenue, and cracked down on the fake IDs market.

Specifically, this is some of the work of which I am most proud of:

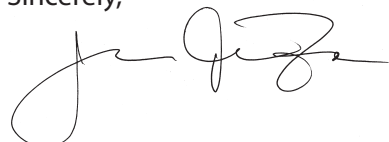
- My bill, intended to crack down on the fake IDs market and other forged official documents, passed the Senate. The proposal, approved unanimously, toughens the penalties against the individuals who sell or manufacture forged identifications, especially government issued documents. Roosevelt Avenue, in the heart of the district, is the epicenter for selling and manufacturing of these counterfeit documents. It is my hope the Assembly will take up this measure when we return for session next year.
- I authored a bill to further fight gangs and other organized crime by including computer offenses, such as identity theft and ATM skimming among punishable penalties under the State's enterprise corruption statute.
- I introduced a bill urging the Metropolitan Transit Authority to study the feasibility of installing sliding access doors in subway platforms to improve riders' safety.
- The proposal, passed unanimously by the Senate, increasing monetary penalties for agents of licensed money transmitters for failure to remit money in a timely manner.
- I introduced a bill that was included in the final compromise aimed at strengthening human trafficking laws. It reclassifies sex trafficking as a violent felony, toughens penalties for first time offenders and it raises the minimum jail sentence to five years from the current one-to-three years.

continued—

- I continue to fight school overcrowding and secure millions of state dollars for the construction of new schools. For example, I proposed to the New York City Department of Education and the Parks Department to build a permanent annex to the PS 143 Louis Armstrong School to alleviate chronic overcrowding at the facility. The new annex would replace the current mini-building and the six temporary trailer classroom units which house hundreds of students.
- In addition, I am proudly working with city government and community-based organizations to find space in order to reach the goal of achieving true universal pre-kindergarten in our community.
- My bill that would regulate the use of motor-driven scooters for commercial purposes was introduced and continues to pressure the City Council to act on this important safety issue.
- I called for the establishment of a modern Street Vendor Commission that would allow for street vendor and business owners to come together to debate and tackle important issues, such as lifting the caps on street vendor permits, rescinding licenses to those who illegally rent out credentials and the creation of a letter grading system similar to that of the restaurants. After a decade of inaction on this issue, it is time to seek a solution that addresses the concerns of both hardworking street vendors and owners of traditional brick-and-mortar businesses.
- I launched an offensive effort to take Roosevelt Avenue back from the pimps and other criminals to make it a better, cleaner place to shop and do business. For example, I authored the "Chica Card" law to eradicate those sex, brothel business cards and lewd images that end up in the hands of school children and litter the streets especially along Roosevelt Avenue. We must ensure Roosevelt Avenue is a place for local families to safely go about their lives.
- Locally, I focused on bringing additional school crossing guards, speed cameras and safety signage to school zones to ensure the safety of our children in schools.
- In addition, my office organized job fairs to bring dozens of major employers into the community with hundreds of positions to fill.
- We hosted "Back to School" events to distribute thousands of backpacks and school materials donated by companies and community organizations to hard-working families.
- My fight for gun violence prevention continues. I am the sponsor of several gun bills that would crack down on gun violence, such as my microstamping legislation, a simple and inexpensive method that stamps a code on the shell casings when a gun is fired. The microstamps recovered allows law enforcement agencies to identify guns used in crimes and where they were brought.
- Lastly but importantly, the DREAM Act, my common-sense proposal to provide state-financed college aid to students regardless of their immigration status, continues to be my top priority.

And remember, if you have any questions or need help, please stop by the district office or call at (718) 205- 3881.

Sincerely,



Senator Jose Peralta



More than one hundred parents joined Senator Peralta to demand that the Department of Education and the Parks Department build a permanent annex to Corona's Public School 143 to alleviate chronic overcrowding.



As part of the Dominican Heritage Month, Senator Peralta and other state elected officials honored Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Pedro Martínez during an event in Albany.



Senator Peralta is the prime sponsor of the DREAM Act, a proposal that would provide state-financed aid to college students regardless of their immigration status. The Senator joined City University of New York (CUNY) DREAMers in their first graduation ceremony. Senator Peralta presented them with a proclamation.



Senator Peralta joined workers at LaGuardia Airport urging companies that contract with airlines to put an end to low wages and unfair labor practices.