

# NEWS FROM

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR  
**BRAD HOYLMAN**  
(D) 27TH SENATE DISTRICT



## October 2014

Dear Neighbor:

Below is an update on my recent work as well as a link to a **fact sheet on the Ebola virus**, and information about a rally and press conference on Monday, November 3 to **stop the eviction of the senior center at Our Lady of Pompeii Church**, and the **West Side Tenants Conference** Saturday, November 1.

As always, contact me if you have any questions or ideas how I might be helpful.

All best,



Brad Hoylman  
State Senator  
27th District

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## Facts About Ebola

Last weekend, I joined Mayor de Blasio, NYC Department of Health Commissioner Dr. Mary Bassett and government colleagues and hospital officials in touring Bellevue Hospital Center in our district, home of the city's [Ebola treatment unit](#). As Mayor de Blasio has said, our healthcare workers are deserving of our highest gratitude and respect for their efforts in caring for the city's first Ebola patient, Dr. Craig Spencer, who himself cared for Ebola patients in West Africa.

The City and State Health Departments stress that Ebola can only be contracted from having *direct contact* with the bodily fluids of an infectious person. Ebola is not spread through the air or by water, or in general, food. Healthcare workers caring for Ebola patients and the family and friends in close contact with infected persons are at the highest risk of getting sick because they may come in contact with the blood or bodily fluids of sick patients. Please click [here](#) for frequently asked questions about Ebola from the City's Health Department website.

## Save the Senior Center at Our Lady of Pompeii Church

After learning on October 23 that the pastor of Our Lady of Pompeii Church at 25 Carmine Street doesn't intend to renew the lease of its longstanding senior center, I helped spearhead a letter to Cardinal Timothy Dolan seeking intervention by the Archdiocese. I was joined by Congressman Jerry Nadler,

Borough President Gale Brewer, State Senator Daniel Squadron, Assembly Member Deborah Glick and Council Members Corey Johnson and Margaret Chin. I have personally urged the pastor to negotiate with Greenwich House, the not-for-profit organization which operates the senior center. Please join me and my colleagues in government, Greenwich House and seniors at a rally and press conference this coming Monday, November 3 at 12:30 p.m. outside the church on the corner of Carmine and Bleecker Streets. We must keep this vital institution for our vulnerable seniors in its home. Please see our letter to Cardinal Dolan [here](#) and a recent news clip on the issue [here](#).



### **Law Signed Lowering Speed Limit to 25 MPH**

On October 27, I was pleased to stand with the courageous families of traffic victims as Mayor Bill de Blasio signed historic legislation lowering New York City's speed limit to 25 miles per hour. I was a strong supporter of the legislation authorizing New York City to implement this key component of the Mayor's [Vision Zero Action Plan](#) to eliminate traffic fatalities. Studies show lowering the speed limit, even by five miles per hour, can significantly reduce traffic-related injuries and deaths. Our new citywide speed limit will greatly improve the safety of all New Yorkers.

### **Why Doesn't the NFL Pay Taxes?**

I recently wrote an op-ed questioning why the National Football League, headquartered in our district, is allowed to operate as a non-profit entity. I think it's time for the NFL, a \$10 billion industry, to pay its fair share of corporate taxes. You can read my op-ed [here](#).



### **Top Score for Protecting Our Environment**

I'm honored to have received the highest State Senate score from Environmental Advocates, which recently issued its annual scorecard of the New York State Legislature on key legislation affecting New York's air, land, water, wildlife and public health. For more information about the Environmental

Advocates scorecard or to read the entire report please visit [www.eplscorecard.org](http://www.eplscorecard.org).

### **Extend Reverse Mortgages to Co-ops**

I recently helped spearhead a letter with Congressman Jerry Nadler, Senator Chuck Schumer, Assembly Member Deborah Glick and Council Member Corey Johnson, to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), asking the agency to extend reverse mortgages to co-op owners. Under HUD's [Home Equity Conversion Mortgage](#) (HECM) program, homeowners over age 62 can apply for reverse mortgages to leverage some of the equity in their homes for other expenses. Currently co-op owners, who face rising maintenance fees and other costs of living, aren't eligible for the program. In the letter, we cited the approximately 70 renters at West Village Houses co-op, whose statutory rent stabilization ends in 2018, as constituents who could potentially avoid losing their long-time homes by utilizing the [HECM for Purchase](#) program. Please see the letter [here](#).

### **Silencing Nightly Noise from East Village 7-Eleven**

Last Tuesday, I joined constituents at a New York City Environmental Control Board (ECB) hearing where an administrative law judge ordered the 7-Eleven convenience store at 170 Avenue A to immediately turn off its noisy air conditioning units daily from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. and move all of its offending equipment permanently.

Since February of this year, I've worked closely with affected neighbors and Manhattan Community Board 3 to silence 7-Eleven's offending refrigeration and air conditioning units. I have also helped secure numerous noise violations from the City's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), which precipitated the decision. While I'm dismayed that 7-Eleven and its landlord didn't heed our calls to resolve the matter voluntarily, I applaud the ECB and DEP for requiring them to take action now to bring relief to neighbors. Please see my statement on this local victory [here](#).

### **West Side Tenants Conference – Saturday, November 1**

On Saturday November 1, [Housing Conservation Coordinators](#) will be holding its annual West Side Tenants Conference at Fordham University, School Of Law, 150 West 62th Street at Columbus Ave, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The conference will have workshops on important topics to tenants, such as finding affordable housing, fighting MCIs and combating tenant harassment, among others. At 2:30 p.m., I'm on a panel entitled "Rent Showdown in Albany" with Assembly Member Dick Gottfried and Tenants & Neighbors organizer Delsenia Glover. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#).

### **Legislation to Modernize Birth Certificates**

I have introduced the "Modern Family Birth Certificate Act" ([S.7942](#)) to modernize the parentage designations on New York State birth certificates. The legislation allows parents to choose to be designated as either "mother," "father," or "parent" instead of the current designations of "mother/parent" and "father/parent," which leads some female-identified same-sex couples to list one female parent as "father." We must ensure that these families have the same rights as anyone else, including the right to have their families acknowledged accurately on birth certificates. For more information about my legislation, click [here](#).

### **Attend the DOE's Fall Parent Conferences**

Over the next six weeks, the New York City Department of Education (DOE) is hosting grade-specific and informative events to help public school parents have an impact on their children's education, both in school and at home. The topics to be covered at these events include, but are not limited to: the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process, bullying, Pre-K activities, organization and prioritization, managing teen stress, parent teacher conferences and bilingual education. There will be free breakfast and childcare provided, as well as numerous giveaways including free books. The Elementary School Conference will be on Saturday, November 1, High School on Saturday, November 15, and Middle School on Saturday, December 6. Please note that these conferences will fill up fast, and the DOE encourages families to register quickly while there are still seats available. For more information or to register, go

to <http://on.nyc.gov/1pKha43> or call 212-374-4118.

**Heat Season Has Begun**

In New York City, from October 1 through May 31, landlords are legally required to maintain an inside, daytime temperature of at least 68° F if the outside temperature falls below 55° F, and a nighttime, inside temperature of at least 55° F if the outside temperature outside falls below 40° F. If you are not receiving adequate heat in your apartment, you should call 311 and be sure to write down your complaint number. Please contact me at 212-633-8052 so that I can follow up with the appropriate agency on your behalf.