

Public Protection

The safety of New Yorkers should be the top priority for anyone holding public office. That is why the Assembly Republican Conference supports the following legislation:

Bail and Parole Reform

Make “Hate Crime” a Qualified Offense – Makes a “hate crime” a qualified offense for purposes of bail issuance and denying pre-trial (**A.3986, M. Miller**).

Judicial Discretion – Restores judicial discretion to allow judges the ability to determine whether a violent criminal poses a dangerous threat to the community and can be held without bail (**A.5265, Reilly**).

Ensure Punishment for Gun Crimes – Removes all gun crimes from the no-bail list of offenses Democrats established in 2019 (**A.7066, Barclay**).

Parole Reform – Requires a unanimous vote of at least three parole commissioners to grant a prisoner early release. Also allows a majority vote of the Legislature to remove a commissioner from the Parole Board (**A.5737, Barclay**).

“Paula’s Law” – Prevents the parole of anyone who sexually assaults and murders a child under 18 years of age (**A.6017, Lawler**).

Three Strikes & You’re In – Authorizes life in prison without parole for persistent violent felony offenders (**A.5334, Brabenec**).

Addressing Gun Violence

Firing into a Crowded Space – Makes it a Class B violent felony to fire into a crowded space with the intent to harm (**A.4259, Jensen**).

Additional Penalties for Committing Crimes with a Firearm – Provides for an additional five-year term of imprisonment for committing a felony while possessing a loaded firearm (**A.4762, Mikulin**).

Supporting Law Enforcement

Police Safety Equipment Grant Program – Establishes the police safety equipment grant program within the Division of Criminal Justice Services and makes an appropriation (**A.4758, Smith**).

School Resource Officer and DARE Grant Program – Establishes a \$30 million grant program for the cost of school resource officers or costs related to the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Program (**A.5051, Montesano**).

Killing a Police Animal – Elevates killing a police work dog or police work horse from a class E felony to a class D felony (**A.5342, Brabenec**).

Menacing a Police Officer – Establishes the offenses of menacing a police officer or peace officer in the first degree and menacing a police officer or peace officer in the second degree (**A.6578, Montesano**).

Increased Penalties for Crimes During a Riot – Enhances the penalties for crimes committed during a riot (**A.5121, Reilly**).

Obstructing a Police Officer – Creates the class E felony offense of Obstructing a Police Officer when a person intentionally interferes with, inhibits, or attempts to interfere with or inhibit a police or peace officer from performing their official duties (**A.4804, Smith**).

Additional Public Protection Legislation

Contraband Screening At Correctional Facilities – Requires the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) to establish a contraband screening plan in correctional facilities (**A.5058, Palmesano**).

Lifetime Parole Supervision for Sex Offenders – Requires lifetime parole supervision for violent felony sex offenders after they complete their sentences and prohibits early release from prison for these offenders (**A.5014, Barclay**).

Sex Offender Voting Location Restrictions – Prohibits level two or three sex offenders from voting at a school or facility for children (**A.3885, Norris**).

“Clara’s Law” – Requires hospitals and healthcare facilities to report incidents of sexual offense against a patient by a healthcare practitioner to the Department of Health and the Department of Education (**A.5011, Gallahan**).

Increased Penalties for Passing School Buses – Increases penalties for individuals who cause injury or death to a person while overtaking and passing a stopped school bus (**A.5507, Palmesano**).

Strengthen Penalties for Crimes Against Children – Addresses current statutes pertaining to child abuse, child sex abuse, and murder by strengthening child endangerment laws, strengthening penalties for those who sexually abuse children, and clearly defining depraved indifference (**A.5754, Barclay**).

Arson While Manufacturing a Controlled Substance – Defines a person as guilty of arson in the first degree who while manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance destroys or causes to be burned, in whole or part, a building or person (**A.4965, Palmesano**).

Penalties for Methamphetamine Possession or Sale – Amends the penal law so that the penalties for the possession and/or sale of methamphetamine are similar to those of the penalties for possession and/or sale of heroin and cocaine (**A.5797, Palmesano**).

Manufacturing Methamphetamine Penalties – Increases the penalties for the crimes of criminal possession of methamphetamine manufacturing material and unlawful manufacture of methamphetamine (**A.5800, Palmesano**).

“Bella’s Law” – Calls for an investigation into possible domestic violence or abuse for persons who have been accused of animal abuse (**A.3985, M. Miller**).

“Todd’s Law” – Increases the punishment by one category when a person is convicted of petit larceny or grand larceny and the property stolen is necessary for the daily living of a physically disabled or elderly individual (**A.4701, Smith**).

Landowner Liability Protection – Grants landowners protection from liability if an individual is injured on their property by providing for a general exemption from liability for “other recreational activities” (**A.6134, Friend**).