



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

May 16, 2016

Dear Advocates:

Please accept my sincere greetings as you gather for the annual New York State Assembly Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day.

I am honored to join with Assemblyman David Weprin, the Chair of the Task Force on People with Disabilities; Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther, the Chair of the Committee on Mental Health; Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb and Assemblyman Steve Katz, in welcoming you to this annual gathering.

Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day is an excellent opportunity to bring organizations that serve people with disabilities to Albany. Today is a time to recognize and acknowledge the accomplishments of persons with disabilities and advocates. Everyone gathered here today can be extremely proud of their tireless and dedicated efforts and of the important role they play in the legislative process.

I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding work of the Task Force on People with Disabilities and the entire Assembly staff who work on this event. With their work on Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day and, indeed, throughout the year, they have established themselves as an authority on the issues that are important to New Yorkers with disabilities.

Again, thank you for making the trip to Albany. I wish you a successful day and look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carl E. Heastie".

CARL E. HEASTIE
Speaker



Aileen M. Gunther
Member of Assembly
100th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Mental Health

CHAIR
Subcommittee on Women's Health

COMMITTEES
Agriculture
Environmental Conservation
Health
Racing and Wagering
Real Property Taxation

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Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Albany for the 2016 Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day.

I would first like to thank all of you for the truly incredible work that you do. Since becoming Chair of the Assembly Mental Health Committee, this community has been a tremendous resource for me. I admire your steadfast dedication to bettering the lives of people who live with disabilities.

Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day is an opportunity to share with my colleagues in the Legislature some of the issues that matter most to the disabled community. I have been fortunate to co-host this event for several years now, and each year there are more and more people who come to share their stories and knowledge with one another.

I would like to thank everyone who helped make the 2016 Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day such a great success. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,

Aileen Gunther, Chair
NYS Assembly Committee on Mental Health