

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT Busy bill sponsor

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Body

In a five-minute flurry of bill-passing activity Monday, the state Assembly approved five bills primarily sponsored by Flushing Assemblyman Brian McLaughlin.

The Immigrant Services Act would install safeguards against unscrupulous immigration consultants, and the Transportation of School Children with Disabilities bill would require that bus drivers have sufficient information about youngsters' specific disabilities.

The three other bills are meant to streamline state regulations.

McLaughlin said the quick vote did not reflect the years of legislative work that went into forging the bills, and the number of people who will benefit.

"We in government often have days that make us proud," he said. "This is one of them."

To become law, the bills also must pass the state Senate and be signed by Gov. Pataki.

New court forum

The Integrated Domestic Violence Court recently established in Queens will be the topic at a seminar Feb. 10 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Belson Moot Courtroom of St. John's University School of Law, 8800 Utopia Parkway, Jamaica. Speakers will include retired Court of Appeals Judge Joseph Bellacosa, the law+

school's dean; Queens Administrative Judge Steven Fisher, and Deputy Administrative Judge Judy Harris.

Sponsors include the Queens County Bar Association, St. John's Law School, the Queens County Women's Bar Association and the Columbian Lawyers. It is free to all attorneys and law school students, but registration is required. Call the school at (718) 990-6006.

Needs hearing

Community Board 2 will hold a hearing Thursday on the Citywide Statement of Needs for Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006, which provides information on facilities the city expects to site, expand, replace or consolidate during the next two fiscal years. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Sunnyside Senior Center, 43-31 39th St.

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