



Elijah Reichlin-Melnick (D)

38th Senate District (Orangetown, Clarkstown, and Ramapo, Rockland County):

Seat currently held by David Carlucci (D)

Occupation: Legislative Director, Senator Skoufis

Past Professional Experience: Elementary School Teacher

Education: B.A. Cornell, M.A. Rutgers

Biography

Elijah Reichlin-Melnick was born and raised in Nyack, NY and has lived in Rockland County for almost his whole life.

Over the past decade, Elijah has steadily built his legislative experience by working at all levels of government. After beginning his career as an elementary school teacher, Elijah returned to Rockland and spent nearly five years as a constituent service specialist and district representative for Congressman Eliot Engel and Congresswoman Nita Lowey.

Elijah currently serves as the Legislative Director for State Senator James Skoufis, who represents parts of Rockland, Orange, and Ulster Counties. Through his role as legislative director, Elijah has gained first-hand experience with the legislative process in Albany, so he will hit the ground running as the next State Senator for the 38th District.

While completing his master's degree in city and regional planning from Rutgers University, Elijah worked as the Executive Assistant for Orangetown Town Supervisor Andy Stewart, assisting in municipal management, constituent services, and policy development. Since 2017, Elijah has served Nyack as an elected member of the Village Board of Trustees, where he has prioritized keeping the Village budget under the State property tax cap, enhancing government services, and standing up against over-development.

Elijah has dedicated himself to serving the community, both professionally and in his spare time. After earning his bachelor's degree from Cornell University in 2006, he spent two years as an elementary school teacher at an inner-city school in New Haven where he developed a passion for ensuring that all children have the opportunity to get an excellent education. Back in Rockland, he served on the Nyack Village Planning Board, was chosen as Vice President of Rockland County Young Democrats and Chairman of the Nyack Democratic Committee, and is an active member of the Nyack NAACP and the Nyack Tree Committee.

From 2016-2018, Elijah was a Senior Research Planner at Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress, a Newburgh-based non-profit focused on regional planning and local government issues throughout the Hudson Valley. At Pattern, he worked on an efficiency analysis of several town departments in Clarkstown, an affordable housing needs assessment for Westchester County, and a study commissioned by the Rockland Business Association on the crushing burden of high property taxes in Rockland County.

Outside of work, Elijah is an avid nature photographer, hiker, and amateur pianist. He lives in Nyack with his wife Shelley.

Issues

- Education: Fully fund foundation aid, make public colleges, universities, and trade schools tuition free for New York families, support apprenticeship programs in the skilled trades
- Healthcare: Cap prescription drug prices, create a public health option
- Taxes: Protect the STAR program, allow local governments to share services, create a State plan for those in danger of eviction or foreclosures
- Environment: Quickly implement provisions of the CLCPA
- Economy: Prevailing wage, pursue a long-term vision of new passenger rail service, legalize marijuana and tax sales to create a new revenue stream
- Gun Violence: Ban ghost guns, fund school security measures
- Police: Require transparency around police use of force, and racial disparities in arrests

Endorsements

- 32BJ
- 1199 SEIU
- AFSCME
- CSEA
- AFL-CIO
- CWA
- Hudson Valley Stonewall Democrats
- NYSNA
- Moms Demand Action
- NYSUT
- RWDSU
- IBEW
- UAW
- True Blue NY



Chris Burdick (D)

93rd Assembly District (Bedford, Harrison, Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, New Castle, North Castle, North Salem, Pound Ridge and White Plains, Westchester County):

Seat currently held by David Buchwald (D)

Occupation: Town Supervisor, Town of Bedford

Past Professional Experience: Member, Town Board Bedford; Vice Chairman, Sustainable Westchester; Chief Underwriting Counsel, Stewart Title Insurance Company of New York

Education: B.A. University of California at Berkeley, M.A. Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, J.D. Seton Hall Law School

Biography

Democrat Chris Burdick currently serves as full-time Supervisor of the Town of Bedford, governing a town of 17,500 residents, managing 125 town employees and an annual budget of \$41 million. Previously a member of the town board, he became Bedford's first Democratic supervisor in 30 years after a hard-fought election in 2013. He has been so effective he has won re-election three times – unopposed the last two.

Working with the Bedford Town Board, Chris has delivered tremendous progress on critical issues including the climate crisis, immigration, housing, and clean water infrastructure.

A champion for environmental issues, Chris is Vice Chairman and former Co-Chair of Sustainable Westchester, where he was instrumental in launching the first community aggregation program in New York State. He is on the Executive Committee of the East of Hudson Watershed Corporation; Vice President of the Northern Westchester Watershed Committee; and chairs the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Energy Improvement Corporation.

Outside of his environmental work, Chris serves as a Director of the Bedford Village Lion's Club; Vice President of the Mount Kisco Concert Association; Co-Chairman of the Woodlands Commission of St. Matthew's Church; and Emeritus Member of the Board of Directors of Katonah Museum of Art.

Chris earned his B.A. in economics and history from the University of California at Berkeley; his M.A. in international studies from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; and his J.D. from Seton Hall Law School. He and his wife Illyria have been married for 34 years. They have three adult children and one adorable baby granddaughter.

Before becoming town supervisor, Chris served as an attorney at Stewart Title Insurance Company of New York, where he was Chief Underwriting Counsel.

Issues

- Infrastructure: Work with DOT on I-684/84 corridor study
- Healthcare: Work for universal coverage, defend reproductive rights, support funding for Planned Parenthood
- Gun Safety: Support tougher gun safety and gun trafficking laws
- Environment: Expand offshore wind, solar farms, energy storage, increase access to community solar, electric vehicle fleets in government and electric cars for consumers
- Opioid Crisis: Support additional investments in treatment programs and prevention education

Endorsements

- Senator Pete Harckham
- Working Families Party
- NY League of Conservation Voters
- Moms Demand Action
- Bedford, Mount Kisco, North Castle and Pound Ridge Democratic Committees



Michael Lawler (R)

97th Assembly District (Airmont, Orangetown, Hillburn, Hillcrest, New Square, Monsey, Montebello, Pearl River, Nyack, Spring Valley, South Nyack, Suffern, part of Ramapo, Rockland County): *Seat currently held by Ellen Jaffee (D)*

Occupation: Town Supervisor, Town of Orangetown

Past Professional Experience: Aide to Orangetown Supervisor Teresa Kenny; Westchester Advisor, County Executive Rob Astorino; Executive Director of the New York State Republican Party

Education: B.A. Manhattan College

Biography

Mike Lawler is a lifelong Rockland County resident and graduate of Suffern High School. In 2009, Mike earned a degree in business administration, with a double major in accounting and finance, from Manhattan College, where he was named the valedictorian of his graduating class.

Mike currently serves as Deputy Town Supervisor of Orangetown under Supervisor Teresa Kenny and previously worked in the Westchester County Executive's Office as an advisor to Rob Astorino, where he dealt with issues ranging from the county budget to public policy and community outreach initiatives. In addition, Mike previously served as Executive Director of the State Republican Party, helping elect candidates to federal, state, and local office.

Mike is also a successful small businessman who founded his own government affairs and public relations firm.

Mike and his wife Doina live in Pearl River, NY.

Issues

- Economy: Reduce tax burdens
- Education: Fix the school-aid formula, increase funding, improve standards
- Public Safety: Repeal bail reform
- Ethics: Support statewide term limits

Endorsements

- Labors Local 754
- IBEW Local 363
- Rockland County PBA
- NYC PBA
- MTA PBA
- Port Authority PBA
- Rockland County Building and Construction Trades Council
- NYS Association of PBA's
- Court Officers Association