

Christopher W. Tague Assemblyman, 102<sup>nd</sup> A.D.

Albany, Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Otsego, Schoharie and Ulster Counties

## THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Committee on Agriculture

COMMITTEES

Election Law Environmental Conservation Real Property Taxation Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development

Adam Sharp, President National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences 450 Park Ave. S 3rd Floor New York, NY 10016

Dear President Sharp,

In the last year, thousands of New Yorkers have had to endure the tragic loss of their loved ones, but, sadly, we are just now learning of how dire the situation in our state is. In recent weeks it has come to light that Governor Andrew Cuomo's administration made an active and concerted effort to keep data related to nursing home fatalities hidden from the eyes of the public, press, and state Legislature.

Many times throughout the Governor's daily COVID-19 briefings he would frequently say "blame me" in regards to the shortcomings of New York's pandemic response. After repeating that mantra for about a year now, the Governor has taken no responsibility for his role in hiding the scale of this tragedy from the public or for implementing the controversial Health Department directive that put COVID-19 positive patients into nursing home facilities and caused further infection amongst residents.

While vacating the Governor's Emmy wouldn't bring back the over 15,000 New Yorkers we've lost, it would be a strong showing of solidarity with the families affected and the common good. In a time when many people are disillusioned with our politics and our media, vacating Governor Cuomo's Emmy would show the public that the academy stands against wrongdoing and injustice across the political spectrum. When over 15,000 people die, the public should get answers immediately, and the Governor's dishonesty and lack of leadership should not be celebrated.

The fact of the matter is that the Governor tried to sweep this tragedy under the rug in order to protect his reputation, as last year he saw his celebrity rise due to his daily briefings. His public image was put before the lives of thousands, and I am hopeful you will vacate the Emmy he was given for these briefings to show him and the public that the actions he took to try to cover-up one of the most terrible tragedies our state has seen will not go without consequences.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Tague Assemblyman, 102<sup>nd</sup> A.D.

Doug Smith

Assemblyman, 5<sup>th</sup> A.D.

Jarett Gandolfo

Assemblyman, 7<sup>th</sup> A.D.

**B**avid McDonough

Assemblyman, 14<sup>th</sup> A.D.

miles a. montissio

Michael Montesano

Assemblyman, 15th A.D.

Michael Reilly

Assemblyman, 62<sup>nd</sup> A.D.

Kevin Byrne

Assemblyman, 94th A.D

Mike Lawler

Assemblyman, 97<sup>th</sup> A.D.

Karl Brabenec

Assemblyman, 98th A.D.

Brian Miller Assemblyman, 101st A.D.

Kieran Michael Lalor Assemblyman, 105th A.D. Matthew Simpson Assemblyman, 114<sup>th</sup> A.D.

John Salka Assemblyman, 121<sup>st</sup> A.D.

John Lemondes Assemblyman, 126<sup>th</sup> A.D.

Jeff Gallahan Assemblyman, 131<sup>st</sup> A.D.

David DiPietro Assemblyman, 147<sup>th</sup> A.D. 35

Mark Walczyk Assemblyman, 116<sup>th</sup> A.D.

Christopher Friend Assemblyman, 124<sup>th</sup> A.D.

Brian Manktelow Assemblyman, 130<sup>th</sup> A.D.

Marjorie Byrnes

Assemblywoman, 133<sup>rd</sup> A.D.