



WILL BARCLAY
Minority Leader

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

April 30, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
Hart Senate Office Building, 322
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. President, Minority Leader Schumer & Congressional Leaders:

As a fifth stimulus package is being negotiated in Washington, we hope that it includes aid to local governments, especially in states being hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. We write to urge you to direct some of that aid to volunteer fire departments and volunteer emergency medical services (EMS) that are on the front lines of this epidemic and are facing economic devastation as a result.

New York State is protected daily by 110,000 volunteer firefighters in nearly 900 fire districts. According to the Firemen's Association of the State of New York (FASNY), the services provided by volunteer fire departments save New York taxpayers more than \$3 billion per year.

New York State has been the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak for months, with more than 290,000 positive cases. COVID-19 is taking its toll on our communities both personally and financially. We simply cannot afford to lose our volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS as a result.

We respectfully request that you consider these recommendations to provide direct assistance to volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS to help them survive this pandemic:

- Ensure federal reimbursement to volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS for personal protective equipment (PPE), such as face shields, gloves, gowns, goggles and

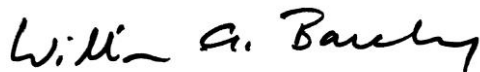
glasses, head covers, masks, respirators, and shoe covers in conformance with FDA requirements.

- Direct federal aid to support eligible first responders who have suffered an involuntary loss of wages and firefighters and emergency medical technicians who have been exposed to COVID-19 and are mandatorily quarantined and cannot return to their primary occupation.
- Direct stimulus funding to volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS to cover the loss of revenue that that is normally generated through fundraising practices hindered by social distancing.
- Ensure that volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS are eligible for COVID-19 recovery loans and grants.

Members of the Assembly Republican Conference appreciate your tireless efforts during this troubling time. We thank you for your consideration and attention to this pressing matter.

God bless America.

Sincerely,



Will Barclay
Assembly Minority Leader



Mike Norris
144th Assembly District



Jake Ashby
107th Assembly District



Ken Blankenbush
117th Assembly District



Karl Brabenec
98th Assembly District



Kevin Byrne
94th Assembly District



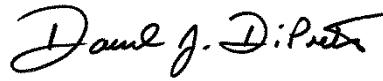
Marjorie Byrnes
133rd Assembly



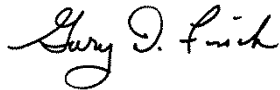
Clifford W. Crouch
122nd Assembly District



Joe DeStefano
3rd Assembly District



David DiPietro
147th Assembly District



Gary D. Finch
126th Assembly District



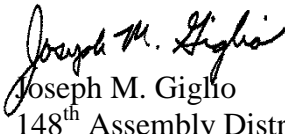
Michael Fitzpatrick
8th Assembly District



Christopher S. Friend
124th Assembly District




Andrew Garbarino
7th Assembly District



Joseph M. Giglio
148th Assembly District



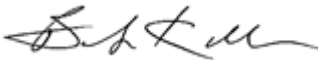
Andy Goodell
150th Assembly District



Steve Hawley
139th Assembly District



Mark Johns
135th Assembly District



Brian M. Kolb
131st Assembly District



Kieran Michael Lalor
105th Assembly District



Peter Lawrence
134th Assembly District




Mike LiPetri
9th Assembly District




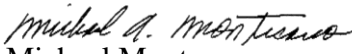
Nicole Malliotakis
64th Assembly District





Brian Manktelow
130th Assembly District


Dave McDonough
14th Assembly District



Brian Miller
101st Assembly District


Michael Montesano
15th Assembly District



Phil Palmesano
132nd Assembly District

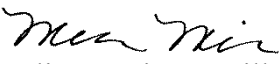

Ed Ra
19th Assembly District



John Salka
121st Assembly District



Doug Smith
5th Assembly District

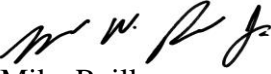

Daniel Stec
114th Assembly District



John Mikulin
17th Assembly District

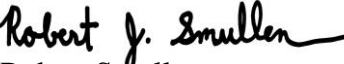

Melissa "Missy" Miller
20th Assembly District



Angelo Morinello
145th Assembly District


Anthony Palumbo
2nd Assembly District


Mike Reilly
62nd Assembly District

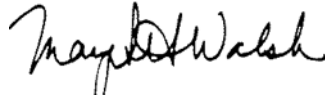

Colin Schmitt
99th Assembly District


Robert Smullen
118th Assembly District


Chris Tague
102nd Assembly District



Mark Walczyk
116th Assembly District



Mary Beth Walsh
112th Assembly District

cc: Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand, Senator
Honorable Lee Zeldin, Congressman
Honorable Pete King, Congressman
Honorable Thomas Suozzi, Congressman
Honorable Kathleen Rice, Congresswoman
Honorable Gregory Meeks, Congressman
Honorable Grace Meng, Congresswoman
Honorable Nydia Velazquez, Congresswoman
Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Congressman
Honorable Yvette Clarke, Congresswoman
Honorable Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
Honorable Max Rose, Congressman
Honorable Carolyn Mahoney, Congresswoman
Honorable Adriano Espaillat, Congressman
Honorable Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Congresswoman
Honorable Jose Serrano, Congressman
Honorable Eliot Engel, Congressman
Honorable Nita Lowey, Congresswoman
Honorable Sean Patrick Maloney, Congressman
Honorable Antonio Delgado, Congressman
Honorable Paul Tonko, Congressman
Honorable Elise Stefanik, Congresswoman
Honorable Anthony Brindisi, Congressman
Honorable Tom Reed, Congressman
Honorable John Katko, Congressman
Honorable Joseph Morelle, Congressman
Honorable Brian Higgins, Congressman