

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Committee on
Tourism, Parks, Arts and
Sports Development
COMMITTEES
Aging
Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
Energy
Health
Higher Education

March 12, 2025

Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor, State of New York
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

As you know, the last few weeks have been a tumultuous time across New York State for our correctional officers (COs), facility staff, the incarcerated population, administrators, activated National Guardsmen, state officials, and affected families. As we work to alleviate tensions and recommit to ensuring public safety, it is our hope that as state leaders we can collaborate on how to best protect all of those in our state's correctional system.

With our shared goal of public safety for all, and to protect our CO employment numbers from further decline, we ask that your administration issue a 48-hour stay on the termination notices recently distributed to more than 2,000 employees within the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS). This brief reprieve would allow COs another opportunity to return to work and protect others who may have missed the 6:45 a.m. deadline by mere minutes. This step would serve as a significant demonstration of compassion and commitment to the dedicated members of our workforce. However, this brief reprieve would not alter the outcome if someone does not return within that specified timeframe.

We can all agree these employees have served New York State diligently, often under demanding conditions. Granting them a short window of leniency before finalizing their terminations would allow them the opportunity to reconsider and a chance to preserve the system from further deterioration. Furthermore, allowing this 48-hour stay would demonstrate to these workers that our state truly values their contributions and sacrifices made as part of our workforce. At the conclusion of this period, the termination notices may be executed as planned, but with the understanding we have extended every consideration to those affected, taking a compassionate approach in our leadership efforts.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this challenging matter. We appreciate your thoughtful attention to this request and continued commitment to the people of New York State.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Gray
116th Assembly District

Will Barclay
Assembly Minority Leader

Philip A. Palmesano
132nd Assembly District



Joseph Angelino
121st Assembly District



Andrea Bailey
133rd Assembly District



Anil Beephan
105th Assembly District



Scott Bendett
107th Assembly District



Kenneth D. Blankenbush
117th Assembly District



Jacob Blumencranz
15th Assembly District



Paul Bologna
144th Assembly District



Karl Brabenec
98th Assembly District



Alec Brook-Krasny
46th Assembly District



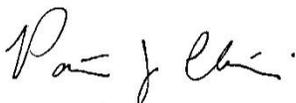
Ari Brown
20th Assembly District



Keith P. Brown
12th Assembly District



Lester Chang
49th Assembly District



Patrick Cludzinski
143rd Assembly District



Joseph P. DeStefano
3rd Assembly District



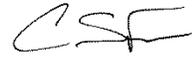
David J. DiPietro
147th Assembly District



Michael Durso
9th Assembly District



Michael J. Fitzpatrick
8th Assembly District



Christopher S. Friend
124th Assembly District



Jeffery Gallahan
131st Assembly District



Jarett Gandolfo
7th Assembly District



Jodi Giglio
2nd Assembly District



Stephen M. Hawley
139th Assembly District



Joshua T. Jensen
134th Assembly District



John Lemondes, Jr.
126th Assembly District



Brian Maher
101st Assembly District



Brian D. Manktelow
130th Assembly District



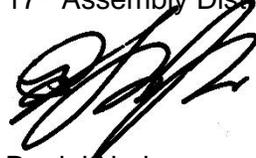
David G. McDonough
14th Assembly District



John Mikulin
17th Assembly District



Brian D. Miller
122nd Assembly District



Daniel Norber
16th Assembly District



Michael Novakhov
45th Assembly District



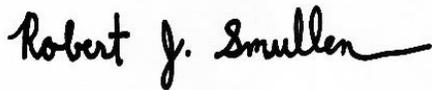
Edward P. Ra
19th Assembly District



Joseph Sempolinski
148th Assembly District



Matthew J. Slater
94th Assembly District



Robert J. Smullen
118th Assembly District



Michael Tannousis
64th Assembly District



Samuel T. Pirozzolo
63rd Assembly District



Michael W. Reilly, Jr.
62nd Assembly District



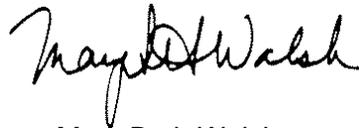
Matthew Simpson
114th Assembly District



Douglas M. Smith
5th Assembly District



Christopher Tague
102nd Assembly District



Mary Beth Walsh
112th Assembly District