



EDWARD P. RA
Assemblyman 19th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Ways and Means Committee

COMMITTEE
Rules

June 1, 2023

Mr. Robert Megna
Budget Director
Division of the Budget
The Capitol
Albany, New York 12210

Mr. Daniel W. Tietz
Commissioner
Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance
50 North Pearl Street
Albany, New York 12243

Dear Budget Director Megna and Commissioner Tietz:

As you are aware, the Enacted Budget allocated \$1 billion in support for the City of New York to provide reimbursement for costs associated with the influx of migrants to the state, including shelter and humanitarian aid. Your offices have been tasked with administering these funds on behalf of the state. As the City of New York continues to resettle migrants in upstate counties, it is important that proper communication occurs between the City of New York and municipalities outside the city where migrants will be housed.

It has come to our attention that New York City has been relocating migrants without much, if any, coordination between city officials and the municipalities where the migrants are being transported and housed. Equally concerning are reports that the city is planning to ignore applicable local laws related to hotel stay lengths. For example, more than 20 migrants were relocated to a hotel in the Town of Colonie this weekend with the intention of them remaining there for up to four months. This is despite the fact that the town has a long-standing ordinance limiting hotel stays to 28 days.

As we have seen in recent years, questionable state spending becomes commonplace during a declared state of emergency, when protocols ensuring proper transparency and oversight are removed. It is imperative that your office ensures any funds allocated by the state, whether spent directly or indirectly, to relocate migrants to other counties be expended consistent with local laws and only in coordination with these counties. We are respectfully requesting information on a number of topics, including:

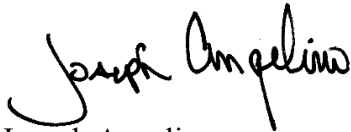
- Clarification as to whether these state funds will be used to reimburse the City of New York for housing migrants in other parts of the state;
- What policies, if any, are being put in place to ensure the city properly notifies and coordinates with the appropriate government officials in any municipalities where migrants will be housed; and
- Whether the City of New York will be required to affirmatively state they are complying with applicable local laws as part of their plan for spending the funding allocated by the state in our recently enacted budget.

Thank you for your prompt response and attention to this matter.

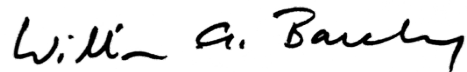
Sincerely,



Edward P. Ra
19th Assembly District



Joseph Angelino
121st Assembly District



Will Barclay
Assembly Minority Leader



Anil Beephan
105th Assembly District



Scott Bendett
107th Assembly District



Kenneth D. Blankenbush
117th Assembly District



Jacob Blumencranz
15th Assembly District



Karl Brabenec
98th Assembly District



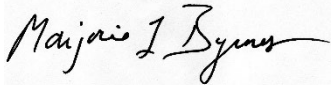
Alec Brook-Krasny
46th Assembly District



Ari Brown
20th Assembly District



Keith P. Brown
12th Assembly District



Marjorie L. Byrnes
133rd Assembly District



Lester Chang
49th Assembly District



Brian Curran
21st Assembly District



Joseph P. DeStefano
3rd Assembly District



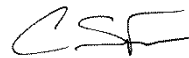
Michael Durso
9th Assembly District



Michael J. Fitzpatrick
8th Assembly District



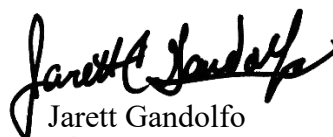
Edward A. Flood
4th Assembly District



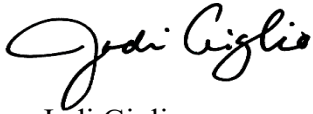
Christopher S. Friend
124th Assembly District



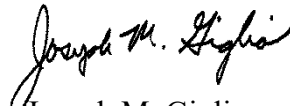
Jeffery Gallahan
131st Assembly District



Jarett Gandolfo
7th Assembly District



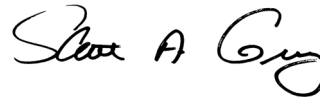
Jodi Giglio
2nd Assembly District



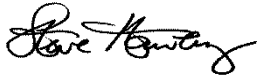
Joseph M. Giglio
148th Assembly District



Andrew Goodell
150th Assembly District



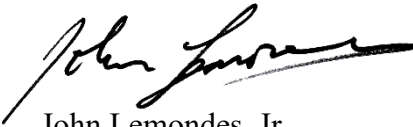
Scott A. Gray
116th Assembly District



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



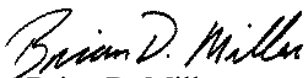
David G. McDonough
14th Assembly District



John W. McGowan
97th Assembly District



John Mikulin
17th Assembly District



Brian D. Miller
122nd Assembly District



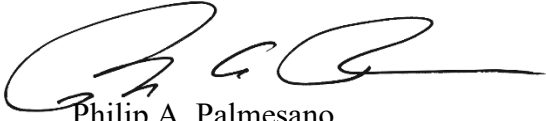
Angelo J. Morinello
145th Assembly District



Michael J. Norris
144th Assembly District



Michael Novakhov
45th Assembly District



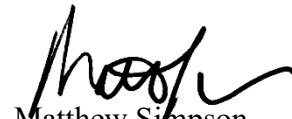
Philip A. Palmesano
132nd Assembly District



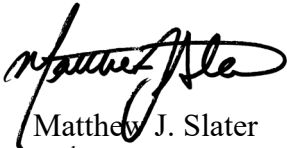
Samuel T. Pirozzolo
63rd Assembly District



Michael W. Reilly, Jr.
62nd Assembly District



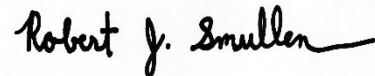
Matthew Simpson
114th Assembly District



Matthew J. Slater
94th Assembly District



Douglas M. Smith
5th Assembly District



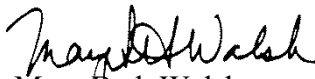
Robert J. Smullen
118th Assembly District



Christopher Tague
102nd Assembly District



Michael Tannousis
64th Assembly District



Mary Beth Walsh
112th Assembly District