

## THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER Oversight, Analyasis, and Investigation Committee

COMMITTEES

Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development People with Disabilities

Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

March 16, 2021

Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo Governor of the State of New York 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, NYS Capitol Albany, New York 12224

Howard Zucker, M.D., J.D. Commissioner of the Department of Health Empire Plaza, Corning Tower State Street Albany, New York 12203

Dear Governor Cuomo and Commissioner Zucker:

We are writing to request the state include all private-sector employees who face the public in the next expected COVID-19 vaccine eligibility expansion on March 17. We believe including private, public-facing employees will help protect workers and the many New Yorkers with whom they closely interact.

Currently, by limiting vaccines to only grocery, restaurant and delivery, hotel, for-hire drivers, childcare, and funeral firm employees a large number of private-sector workers are at risk. There are other private-sector workers who interact and serve the public in very close engagement, such as hair stylists, barbers, massage therapists, and many more. These businesses offer important health and grooming services to the public.

Our economy took a large hit from the state pandemic response, first starting with the shutdown, and then the lingering restrictions on certain businesses. We believe the state must, as best as possible, give our small businesses every tool available to accelerate their return and recovery, including deserved access to the COVID-19 vaccine for their employees. As vaccine availability increases in our state, we believe that New York can accommodate these workers as well.

Sincerely,

122<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

Karl Brabenec
98th Assembly District

Marjorie L. Byrnes 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

David J. DiPietro
147th Assembly District

Jarett Gandolfo
7th Assembly District

Stephen M. Hawley 139<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

John Lamondes, Jr. 126<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

David G. McDonough 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Keith P. Brown
12<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Joseph P. DeStefano 3<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

Jeffery Gallahan 131<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

Joffy L. Gelle

Jodi Giglio 2<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

Michael Lawler 97<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Brian D. Manktelow 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Melissa "Missy" Miller 20<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Men nin

Michael A. Montesano 15<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Philip A. Palmesano 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

Christopher Tague 102<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

Chun

Muchael J. Norris Michael J. Norris 144<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

John J. Salka
121<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

Mark C. Walczyk 116<sup>th</sup> Assembly District