



KAREN MCMAHON
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March 28, 2020

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We the undersigned, as representatives of the people of the State of New York, write to urge you to utilize the full powers afforded to you under the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. §§4501 *et seq.*) as part of the federal government's ongoing response to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. New York State has reported the highest numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the United States and that number is growing exponentially.

Shortages of basic medical supplies are seriously impacting the state's ability to respond to this crisis. While government officials and media outlets report shipments of personal protective equipment (PPE), hospitals, nursing homes, and health systems are experiencing a dire shortage of these supplies. Worse yet, a lack of testing materials prevents many communities from ascertaining the full extent of the pandemic. Sadly, most local public health officials do not have clear information as to when supplies will arrive.

This on-the-ground reality puts the lives of patients and healthcare personnel in danger. Medical professionals' time intended for preparedness, response, and patient care is instead consumed by navigating breakdowns in the supply chain, altering and re-altering policies around PPE use, and retraining healthcare personnel in increasing tiers of crisis-standard utilization. Shifting policies and protocols due to the lack of supplies erodes the healthcare professionals' confidence that they can safely perform their jobs. All this is happening *before* the expected apex of cases occurs.

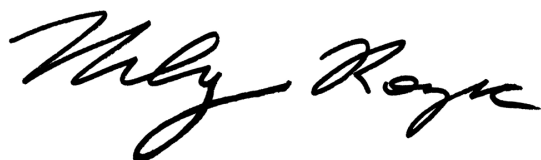
According to public health experts, New York State's number of positive COVID-19 cases could peak in 21 days. At that time, the state will need approximately 140,000 hospital beds and 30,000 to 40,000 ventilators to adequately respond to the crisis. The state's current capacity is insufficient and, already, New York's medical and hospital infrastructure is being placed under duress due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We must resolve these supply shortages immediately.

While we are pleased that you have invoked your authority to compel the production of more ventilators, there is still an urgent need for testing materials and PPE, including gloves, N95 and filtering respirators, surgical masks, eye protection, gowns, and alcohol-based hand sanitizer, together with the assurance that the domestic manufacturing capacity of the United States will provide a sustained supply of these materials throughout the duration of the pandemic. The only way this can be achieved is through the full invocation of the authority afforded to you under the Defense Production Act. Accordingly, we urge you to exercise this authority without further delay.

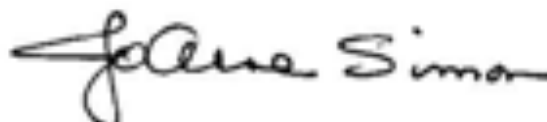
Sincerely,



Karen M. McMahon
Member of Assembly, 146th A.D.



Nily Rozic
Member of Assembly, 25th A.D.
Chair, Office of State-Federal Relations



Jo Anne Simon
Member of Assembly, 52nd A.D.



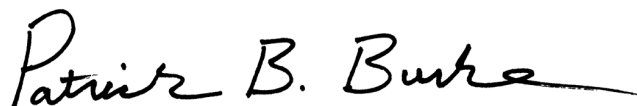
Steve Stern
Member of Assembly, 10th A.D.



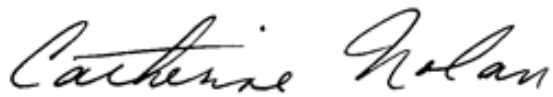
David Buchwald
Member of Assembly, 93rd A.D.



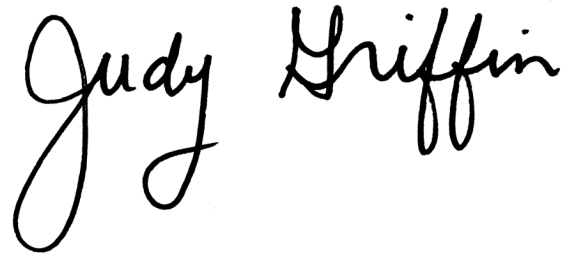
Brian Barnwell
Member of Assembly, 30th A.D.



Patrick B. Burke
Member of Assembly, 142nd A.D.



Catherine Nolan
Member of Assembly, 37th A.D.



Judy Griffin
Member of Assembly, 21st A.D.



Karines Reyes
Member of Assembly, 87th A.D.



Deborah J. Glick
Member of Assembly, 66th A.D.



Monica Wallace
Member of Assembly, 143rd A.D.



Sean M. Ryan
Member of Assembly, 149th A.D.



Patricia Fahey
Member of Assembly, 109th A.D.



Billy Jones
Member of Assembly, 115th A.D.



Robin Schimminger
Member of Assembly, 140th A.D.



Michaëlle Solages
Member of Assembly, 22nd A.D.