



## Press Release

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Danny Randell: 718-682-8254

# Pheffer Amato: Bring us More Beds

**South Queens, New York-** On Monday, **Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens)** wrote a letter to New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo supporting his request for federal assistance to build more hospital beds, and to expand the existing capacity of hospital beds in New York City. The letter requested that if federal assistance is coming, that the first new beds and capacity increase come to Rockaway.

“Our community is particularly vulnerable to the spread of an illness like the Coronavirus,” **Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato** said. “I wrote this letter because we need to let Governor Cuomo know that our community supports his efforts to get more beds, and that once resources come, they need to come to the Rockaway peninsula first. We are geographically isolated from most healthcare resources, we have one hospital which already has a confirmed Coronavirus patient, and we have more adult and nursing homes than any other Assembly District. This is about speaking to the reality of our situation, and what our community needs to fight this unprecedented illness. Governor Cuomo is doing an incredible job providing steady, transparent, and vocal leadership and advocacy for this state – I will do the same for my community.”

Assembly District 23 has 12 adult homes and 16 nursing homes, more than any other in New York State. St. John’s Episcopal Hospital is the only hospital servicing the Rockaway Peninsula, and the nearest Level 1 trauma center is the Jamaica Hospital Medical Center in Richmond Hill, Queens. A copy of the letter is being sent out with this release.

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