



WILL BARCLAY  
Minority Leader

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

April 30, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
Hart Senate Office Building, 322  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. President, Minority Leader Schumer & Congressional Leaders:

As a fifth stimulus package is being negotiated in Washington, we hope that it includes aid to local governments, especially in states being hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. We write to urge you to direct some of that aid to volunteer fire departments and volunteer emergency medical services (EMS) that are on the front lines of this epidemic and are facing economic devastation as a result.

New York State is protected daily by 110,000 volunteer firefighters in nearly 900 fire districts. According to the Firemen's Association of the State of New York (FASNY), the services provided by volunteer fire departments save New York taxpayers more than \$3 billion per year.

New York State has been the epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak for months, with more than 290,000 positive cases. COVID-19 is taking its toll on our communities both personally and financially. We simply cannot afford to lose our volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS as a result.

We respectfully request that you consider these recommendations to provide direct assistance to volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS to help them survive this pandemic:

- Ensure federal reimbursement to volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS for personal protective equipment (PPE), such as face shields, gloves, gowns, goggles and

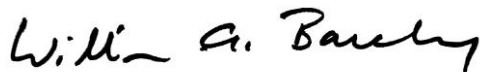
glasses, head covers, masks, respirators, and shoe covers in conformance with FDA requirements.

- Direct federal aid to support eligible first responders who have suffered an involuntary loss of wages and firefighters and emergency medical technicians who have been exposed to COVID-19 and are mandatorily quarantined and cannot return to their primary occupation.
- Direct stimulus funding to volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS to cover the loss of revenue that that is normally generated through fundraising practices hindered by social distancing.
- Ensure that volunteer fire departments and volunteer EMS are eligible for COVID-19 recovery loans and grants.

Members of the Assembly Republican Conference appreciate your tireless efforts during this troubling time. We thank you for your consideration and attention to this pressing matter.

God bless America.

Sincerely,



Will Barclay  
Assembly Minority Leader



Mike Norris  
144<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Jake Ashby  
107<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Ken Blankenbush  
117<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Karl Brabenec  
98<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Kevin Byrne  
94<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



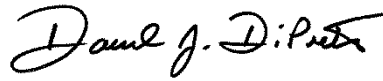
Marjorie Byrnes  
133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly



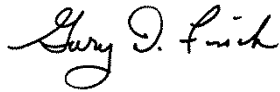
Clifford W. Crouch  
122<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District



Joe DeStefano  
3<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District



David DiPietro  
147<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Gary D. Finch  
126<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



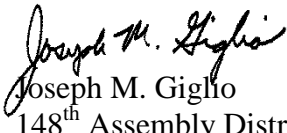
Michael Fitzpatrick  
8<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Christopher S. Friend  
124<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



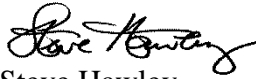
Andrew Garbarino  
7<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Joseph M. Giglio  
148<sup>th</sup> Assembly District




Andy Goodell  
150<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



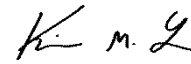
Steve Hawley  
139<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Mark Johns  
135<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Brian M. Kolb  
131<sup>st</sup> Assembly District



Kieran Michael Lalor  
105<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



Peter Lawrence  
134<sup>th</sup> Assembly District




Mike LiPetri  
9<sup>th</sup> Assembly District




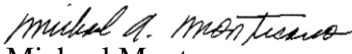
Nicole Malliotakis  
64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District





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


  
Dave McDonough  
14<sup>th</sup> Assembly District


  
Brian Miller  
101<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

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


  
Phil Palmesano  
132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

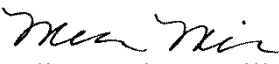
  
Ed Ra  
19<sup>th</sup> Assembly District


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


  
Doug Smith  
5<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

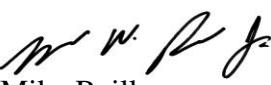
  
Daniel Stec  
114<sup>th</sup> Assembly District


  
John Mikulin  
17<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

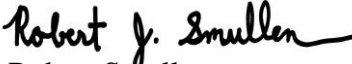
  
Melissa "Missy" Miller  
20<sup>th</sup> Assembly District


  
Angelo Morinello  
145<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

  
Anthony Palumbo  
2<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

  
Mike Reilly  
62<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

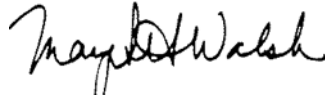
  
Colin Schmitt  
99<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

  
Robert Smullen  
118<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

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



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



Mary Beth Walsh  
112<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

cc: Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand, Senator  
Honorable Lee Zeldin, Congressman  
Honorable Pete King, Congressman  
Honorable Thomas Suozzi, Congressman  
Honorable Kathleen Rice, Congresswoman  
Honorable Gregory Meeks, Congressman  
Honorable Grace Meng, Congresswoman  
Honorable Nydia Velazquez, Congresswoman  
Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Congressman  
Honorable Yvette Clarke, Congresswoman  
Honorable Jerrold Nadler, Congressman  
Honorable Max Rose, Congressman  
Honorable Carolyn Mahoney, Congresswoman  
Honorable Adriano Espaillat, Congressman  
Honorable Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Congresswoman  
Honorable Jose Serrano, Congressman  
Honorable Eliot Engel, Congressman  
Honorable Nita Lowey, Congresswoman  
Honorable Sean Patrick Maloney, Congressman  
Honorable Antonio Delgado, Congressman  
Honorable Paul Tonko, Congressman  
Honorable Elise Stefanik, Congresswoman  
Honorable Anthony Brindisi, Congressman  
Honorable Tom Reed, Congressman  
Honorable John Katko, Congressman  
Honorable Joseph Morelle, Congressman  
Honorable Brian Higgins, Congressman