



Dear Neighbors,

I hope this week is treating you well. My team and I have been busy as ever, with back to back briefings, hearings, and events across the 125th district. No matter how busy it gets for us here in the office, it's always a reminder of why I love this work and this community.

This week, the New York State Department of Labor announced the expanded funding of the Excluded Workers Fund (EWF). This program provides necessary economic relief for workers who were not eligible for previous stimulus acts. Previous programs excluded undocumented workers and people who were recently incarcerated, often frontline workers most likely to get Covid-19, leaving them with little to no financial protections. I advocated for the expansion of this programs funding so that everyone who has been economically affected by this pandemic will finally get the support they rightly deserve. To apply, visit ewf.labor.ny.gov. If you have any questions about this program or are unsure whether you qualify, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office.

I'd like to take this opportunity to provide you all with an update on the current impeachment investigation of Governor Andrew Cuomo. As I'm sure you are all aware, New York State Attorney General Letitia James released a [report](#) on Tuesday concluding that the Governor "sexually harassed multiple women and violated state law." The Attorney General is still investigating whether Gov. Cuomo misused public resources to fund and promote his upcoming book. Simultaneously, the FBI is currently investigating whether he and his aides provided false information to the Justice Department regarding the amount of covid-19 related nursing home deaths.

It is the NY Assembly's responsibility to investigate charges that have been made and determine if there is enough evidence to send articles of impeachment to the Senate. If articles are sent to the Senate and the Senate decides to pursue impeachment proceedings, they will have 30-60 days to prepare for trial using the evidence collected by the Assembly. The Assembly is currently investigating the charges of sexual assault and harassment, inappropriate use of state funds for a private book deal, falsification of nursing home data, and unlawful contracts for the construction of the Mario Cuomo Bridge. The Attorney General has agreed to share all findings from their investigation of sexual assault and harassment charges, which will help expedite the Assembly investigation on this charge. Although the findings

from this investigation are sufficient to send articles of impeachment to the Senate at this time the Assembly will, as expeditiously and thoroughly as possible, complete evidence gathering for all 4 charges before voting to send the articles to the Senate.

To be clear, as many of you have read, out of respect for the 11 women, whose claims are confirmed in the AG's report, I have joined the many voices at the state and federal level asking the governor to resign. I recognize that these findings are enough for an impeachment hearing and have added my voice to my Assembly colleagues' stating that the remainder of the Assembly investigation must conclude as soon as possible and practicable. Like many I am dismayed by the current situation. Nothing should deflate the achievements of Governor Cuomo but I do believe strongly that no one is above the law and if unlawful actions were taken it is our job as the government to investigate and pursue justice.

I recognize the frustration that so many of you must be feeling right now. I have heard from many of you expressing outrage, hurt, confusion, and for some incredulity. This is all shocking and a lot to process. I promise to represent our district to the best of my ability and will carry with me into these proceedings the morals and values of our community.

In good health,



Anna Kelles, Ph.D.

Assemblymember, 125th A.D.

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