



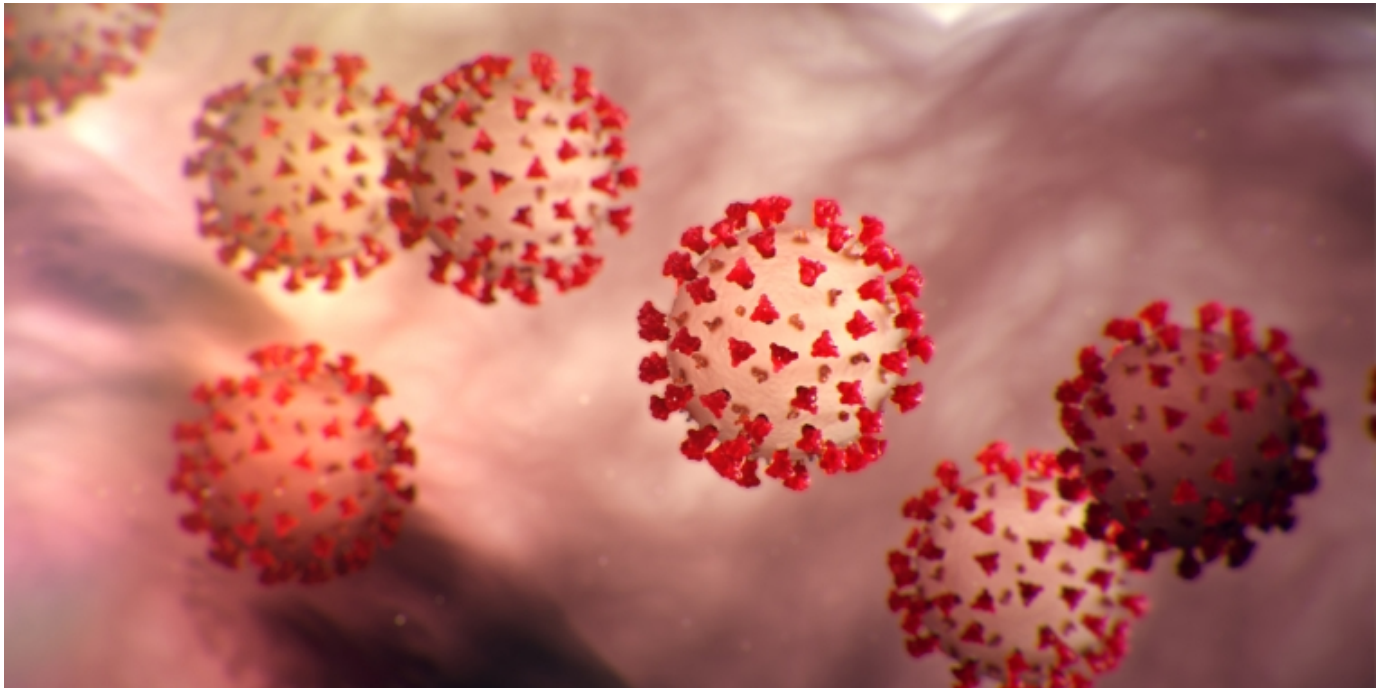
NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patrick M. Gallivan

## Senator Gallivan Calls on Health Committee to Ensure Accuracy of Covid-19 Fatalities

JIM RANNEY September 1, 2021

| ISSUE: **COMBATING COVID-19**



Senator Patrick M. Gallivan (R-C-I, Elma) is calling for the Senate Standing Committee on Health to look into the recent disclosure by Governor Kathy Hochul that the state had nearly 12,000 more deaths from COVID-19 than former Governor Andrew Cuomo reported. As the Ranking Member on the Health Committee, Senator Gallivan says the Legislature must ensure a full accounting of the number of deaths and demand accountability.

“Accuracy and transparency are critical in assessing the full impact of COVID-19 on New York residents,” Senator Gallivan said. “To that end, the committee must exercise its authority as part of the Legislative branch of government to convene public hearings in order to obtain a full accounting of the number of COVID-19 fatalities. The committee must also consider the

culpability of those government officials who shielded the number of such fatalities from the public and recommend corrective action, as warranted.”

On her first full day in office, Governor Hochul reported more than 55,000 people had died of COVID-19 in New York. The number is based on death certificate data submitted to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The day before, the previous administration had reported about 43,400 deaths.

In a letter to Health Committee Chairman, Senator Gustavo Rivera, Gallivan called for a full investigation to help clear up the discrepancy.

“We owe it to all New Yorkers and most importantly the loved ones of those who died from COVID-19 to provide answers and ensure accountability,” Senator Gallivan said.