

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



April 24, 2024

Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor, State of New York
New York State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

As elected officials, we have a responsibility to protect the citizens of New York. With the rise in antisemitism following the horrifying attacks on October 7th, Jewish New Yorkers have been targeted by violent protestors, including on our college campuses. That is why we are requesting immediate action to protect Jewish students at Columbia University and nearby universities.

Last week, pro-Hamas protests started at Columbia University. Despite the un-American behavior against Jewish students and the fact that Hamas is a listed terrorist organization as identified by the United States Department of State, the University's Administration has taken no action. These protests are growing, and Jewish students are being forced to stay home and take classes virtually. This is unacceptable.

The abhorrent behavior of those involved in these protests and inaction by the University's Administration have compromised the safety and education of New York's students. There must be immediate measures taken to end this hate and violence.

For these reasons and despite your recent comments, we urge you to use your authority to deploy the National Guard at Columbia University immediately. With more than \$13 billion in its endowment, Columbia University should be more than capable of covering any costs to the state of New York. We also request you join us in calling for the immediate resignation of the Columbia University President, who has capitulated to these extremists and their radical supporters.

Swift action is needed to protect Jewish students and faculty from harassment and violence.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

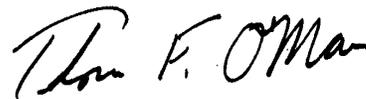
Sincerely,



Robert G. Ort
Senate Minority Leader
62nd District



Senator Andrew Lanza
24th District



Senator Tom O'Mara
58th District



Senator Peter Oberacker
51st District



Senator Anthony Palumbo
1st District



Senator Jim Tedisco
44th District



Senator George Borrello
57th District



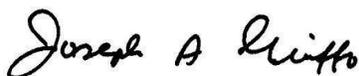
Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick
9th District



Senator Daniel G. Stec
45th District



Senator Alexis Weik
8th District



Senator Joseph Griffo
53rd District



Senator Jack Martins
7th District



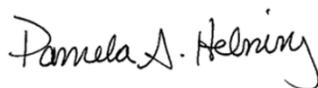
Senator Mario Mattera
2nd District



Senator Jake Ashby
43rd District



Senator Steve Rhoads
5th District



Senator Pam Helming
54th Senate District