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THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



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January 4, 2022

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

We are approaching a solemn anniversary, which we believe must be recognized and memorialized to mourn those who were lost and honor those who survived. We are speaking of the attack on our Capitol and our democracy on January 6, 2021.

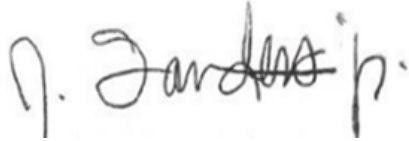
We will never forget the terror that emanated through the halls of Congress as we saw the painful images of U.S. Capitol Police officers being beaten and maimed by those attempting to overturn our free and fair election through violent means.

We applaud Congressman Steny Hoyer of Maryland for initiating the idea on the one-year anniversary of the insurrection that American flags be flown at half-staff. Beginning at 2:11 p.m. – when the U.S. Capitol was first breached – the flag should be lowered. At 8:06 p.m., the flag should be hoisted – the time the senate reconvened, soon after joined by the House, to complete the certification of the election. Rep. Hoyer sent this request to President Joe Biden.

The Empire State, should take the lead on this and we are asking you, our honorable Governor, to command that Congressman Hoyers' idea of flag lowering and hoisting should be done for all state buildings and to recommend that private citizens take part as well to show their solidarity by doing so at their homes.

As we lower and hoist the symbol of our country and our democracy, let it remind us of that day and the challenge we beat back. And, when we raise Old Glory at 8:06 p.m., surely that vision will "give proof through the night that our flag was still there," that what it represents did not fall, and that the brave ones who never made it home that day will never be forgotten. Let it remind us of those famous words: "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Sincerely



Senator James Sanders Jr.



Senator Jabari Brisport



Senator Liz Krueger



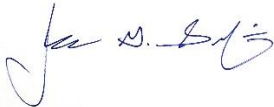
Senator John C. Liu



Senator Leroy Comrie



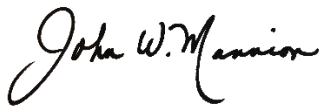
Senator Gustavo Rivera



Senator James Skoufis



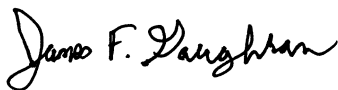
Senator Robert Jackson



Senator John W. Mannion



Senator Rachel May



Senator James Gaughran



Senator Shelley B. Mayer



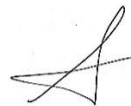
Senator Roxanne J. Persaud



Senator Alessandra Biaggi



Senator Jessica Ramos



Senator Kevin Thomas



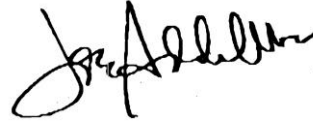
Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick



Senator Jamaal T. Bailey



Senator Samra G. Brouk



Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr



Senator Jeremy A. Cooney



Senator Pete Harckham



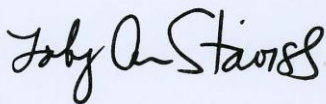
Senator Luis R. Sepúlveda



Senator Alessandra Biaggi



Senator Michelle Hinchey



Senator Toby Ann Stavisky