



March 30, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

We write to you with appreciation for your diligent leadership in responding to the public health crisis that we are all facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we feel a responsibility to our respective communities, that we represent as elected officials, to urgently express our concerns regarding the executive budget proposal; especially its impact on New York state's eligibility for federal funding under the recently passed Families First Coronavirus Response Act (HR6201).

The executive budget proposal to cut Medicaid funds will directly impact safety net hospitals and doctors across our state, including those treating the highest percentage of patients testing positive for COVID-19 in the country. The proposed budget cuts would lead to New Yorkers being deprived of additional federal Medicaid dollars provided for the COVID-19 crisis. Restrictions to states that were included in HR6201, under Section 6008(b) PL 116-127, regarding FMAP, have been imposed by the federal government previously when emergency Medicaid funds were secured to states during the Great Recession.

As your administration has reported, our state could face a state revenue shortfall of up to \$15 Billion due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no doubt that aid from the federal government is needed but will not lift us out of this deficit, nor will Medicaid cuts solve the problem. It is essential that our state's final enacted budget adhere to the eligibility requirements in HR6201 in order to not forego essential funding. This should be amended, precisely because New York has become the epicenter of this global pandemic.

We submit this request in order to most effectively advocate together with your administration for everyday New Yorkers. That's why we urge you, Governor Cuomo, to work with us in securing funds to ensure our hospitals and healthcare system is supported so NY residents have access to proper healthcare.

Sincerely,

Senator Julia C. Salazar  
New York State Senate, District 18

Congresswoman Alexandria  
Ocasio-Cortez  
NY Representative, District 14

Senator Alessandra Biaggi  
NY State Senate, District 34

Senator Gustavo Rivera  
NY State Senate, District 33

Congressmember Nydia Velázquez  
NY Representative, District 7

Senator Monica Martinez  
NY State Senate, District 3

Senator Kevin Thomas  
NY State Senate, District 6

Senator John Liu  
NY State Senate, District 11

Senator Jessica Ramos  
NY State Senate, District 13

Senator Leroy Comrie  
NY State Senate, District 14

Senator Zellnor Myrie  
NY State Senate, District 20

Senator Brad Hoylman  
NY State Senate, District 27

Senator Robert Jackson  
NY State Senate, District 31

Senator Jamaal Bailey  
NY State Senate, District 36

Senator James Skoufis  
NY State Senate, District 39

Senator Jennifer Metzger  
NY State Senate, District 42

Senator Rachel May  
NY State Senate, District 53

Assemblymember Brian Barnwell  
NY State Assembly, District 30

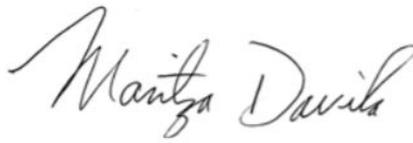
Assemblymember Aravella  
Simotas  
NY State Assembly, District 36

Assemblymember Catalina Cruz  
NY State Assembly, District 39

Assemblymember Mathylde  
Frontus  
NY State Assembly, District 46



Assemblymember Joseph Lentol  
NY State Assembly, District 50



Assemblymember Maritza  
Davila  
NY State Assembly, District 53



Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou  
NY State Assembly, District 65



Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal  
NY State Assembly, District 67



Assemblymember Harvey Epstein  
NY State Assembly, District 74



Councilmember Carlina Rivera  
NY City Council, District 2



Councilmember Stephen Levin  
NY City Council, District 33



Councilmember Antonio Reynoso  
NY City Council, District 34



CouncilMember Brad Lander  
NY City Council, District 39