

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



JAMAAL T. BAILEY  
SENATOR, 36<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

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Crime Victims, Crime and Correction  
Housing, Construction and Community  
Development  
Codes  
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Commerce, Economic Development  
and Small Business  
Finance  
Higher Education  
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Mental Health and Developmental  
Disabilities

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The Honorable Andrew Cuomo  
Governor, State of New York  
The Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

March 6, 2018

Dear Governor Cuomo:

We write to express our disappointment that the Executive Budget you proposed on January 16, 2018, includes no new funding to meet the dire needs of more than 400,000 New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) residents, many of whom live in substandard and sometimes hazardous conditions in large part because of the perennial failure of the Federal, State, and City governments to provide adequate resources for maintenance and repairs. **Prolonged disinvestment in NYCHA has resulted in deteriorating infrastructure, and frequent failure of critical services like heat and hot water in extreme weather conditions. To ensure New York State's commitment to providing access to safe, affordable housing to thousands of constituents, we respectfully urge you to join us in supporting meaningful capital funding for NYCHA by allocating \$500 million.** These funds would be in addition to reallocation of capital funding from prior budgets.

Despite NYCHA's efforts to operate efficiently by implementing a preventive maintenance program and improve management, it struggles to conduct necessary maintenance of its aging boilers. NYCHA estimates 43% of boilers are in critical condition, meaning they are failing or obsolete and need to be replaced urgently. During the coldest temperatures this winter, residents in public housing developments often have not had adequate heat and hot water due to failing boilers. Since October 2017, an estimated 80% of all residents have experienced an outage.

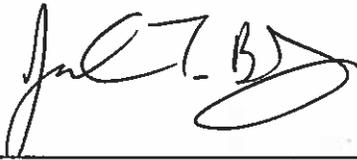
In addition to boilers, other critical needs like leaks, mold, lead remediation, roofs and security require attention all year round.

We ask that these funds be allocated directly to NYCHA rather than through the Dormitory Authority (DASNY). Including DASNY in the approval process for the use of prior allocations has delayed projects from moving forward efficiently. We believe that this would continue to be the case, even with the best coordination efforts among the agencies.

While we are well aware that NYCHA has management challenges, the State has a responsibility to improve living conditions in its public housing. The City in recent years has made substantial investments to begin to offset many years of underfunding. The State's commitment to date has been minimal. Adequate housing as well as access to heat and hot water are basic rights that every New Yorker is legally entitled to, regardless of income, and it is our job as elected representatives of NYCHA tenants to ensure that.

Thank you in advance for considering this urgent need. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact any of us directly, or via Senator Bailey at 518-455-2061 or Senator Kavanagh at 212-298-5565.

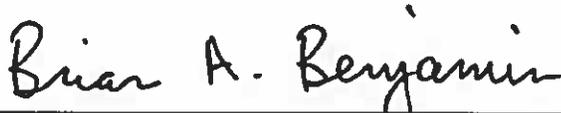
Yours in Partnership,



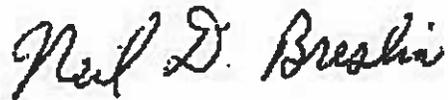
Senator Jamaal T. Bailey, 36<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Brian Kavanagh, 26<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Brian A. Benjamin, 30<sup>th</sup> District



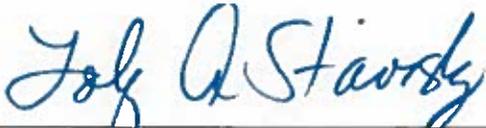
Senator Neil D. Breslin, 44<sup>th</sup> District



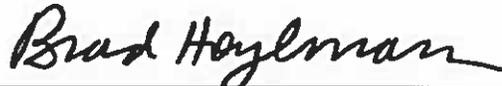
Senator Leroy Comrie, 14<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Martin Dilan, 18<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Toby Ann Stavisky, 16<sup>th</sup> District



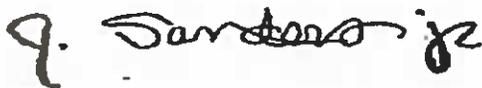
Senator Brad Hoylman, 27<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Velmanette Montgomery, 25<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Kevin S. Parker, 21<sup>st</sup> District



Senator James Sanders, 10<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Gustavo Rivera, 33<sup>rd</sup> District



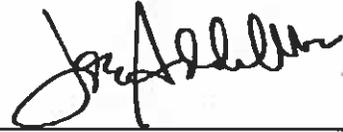
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Senator Roxanne J. Persaud, 19<sup>th</sup> District



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Senator José M. Serrano, 29<sup>th</sup> District



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Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, 15<sup>th</sup> District

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Senator Michael Gianaris, 12<sup>th</sup> District