

January 17, 2019

The Hon. Andrea Stewart Cousins Temporary President and Majority Leader Room 330 CAP Albany, NY 12247

The Hon. John Flanagan Minority Leader Room 315 CAP Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senators Stewart Cousins and Flanagan:

I write to request a restoration of \$59.2 million to the Aid to Municipalities (AIM program) in the enacted 2019-20 New York State budget.

As you may be aware, earlier this week in his Executive Budget proposal, Governor Cuomo proposed a cut in aid to Towns and Villages whose AIM reliance is less than two percent. These cuts will be devastating to towns and villages, many of which have already voted on their budgets for the upcoming year and rely on this yearly aid to help with operational expenses and to provide much-needed services to their residents.

In the 46th Senate District alone, Towns and Villages are facing more than \$1.3 million in cuts. If this funding is not restored, our property taxpayers will ultimately pay the price.

I respectfully request that a complete restoration of AIM funding be included as the Senate drafts their own budget proposal and that the restoration of AIM remain a top priority for the final enacted budget. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

George A. Amedore, Jr. Senator, 46th District

CC: Hon. Andrew Cuomo, Governor