



January 8, 2021

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

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I am writing to ask that the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the Administration publicly report on the potential spread of COVID-19 among the more than 6,700 fans who will attend Saturday's Buffalo Bills NFL playoff game.

As we know, testing is imperative in battling the COVID virus. But we know that no test is 100 percent effective. That's why we need to know the impact of the virus on those who attended, as the last thing we want is the mother of all sports super-spreader events on our hands.

The importance of publicly reporting the health impact of the virus on those who attend Saturday's Bills game is even more important given the danger posed by the UK strain of COVID-19 that was found this week in Saratoga County, which I represent – a strain that you have called a “game changer.”

As I respectfully request you make public this information as you track it following the Bills game, I also renew my request for full transparency for the DOH to release the total number of people who died from COVID-19 who were nursing home residents and were transferred to hospitals where they passed away. The state should look at how Onondaga County has gathered and released data of nursing home deaths by asking hospitals for that information. I hope you would agree that the public has a right to know this information and to give closure to the families impacted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Tedisco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator James N. Tedisco
49th Senate District

CC: NYS Department of Health Commissioner Howard Zucker