



## NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

May 25, 2023

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

Dear Governor Hochul:

I write to express my continued concern regarding the influx of migrants into this state.

Migrants began arriving in New York City from the Southern Border last summer and even though it has been nearly a year, this state still does not have a clear plan on how to deal with the ongoing crisis. Most recently, several County Executives have declared states of emergency and said they will not take migrants without the appropriate plans provided by you.

News reports and comments from you and your administration still do not clarify where migrants will be housed as they continue to enter this state. Instead of housing migrants in public schools in New York City, disrupting childrens' school days, placing them on SUNY campuses, or housing them in hotels or motels around the state, I urge your administration to look into housing migrants in convention centers and similar venues within New York City as you did during the COVID pandemic.

This is a common sense solution to this crisis, as many of these venues exist throughout New York City. Convention centers and similar venues have the resources and services on premises to handle a large number of people without displacing others.

Additionally, as a sanctuary city, New York City should be embracing migrants, instead of transporting them to other communities within the state that do not have the same sanctuary designation. As countless communities outside of New York City have made clear, they do not have the capacity or resources to handle the influx of migrants.

It is my hope you communicate with our local partners, keep the public informed and consider these suggestions as this crisis undoubtedly worsens.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this manner. If you wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert G. Ort". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a stylized "O" at the end.

Robert G. Ort  
Senate Minority Leader  
62nd District