

**RANKING MINORITY MEMBER**  
COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
AND SMALL BUSINESS  
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION  
ON RURAL RESOURCES

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



**SENATOR**  
**PAMELA A. HELMING**  
54TH DISTRICT

**COMMITTEES**  
AGRICULTURE  
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
RACING, GAMING AND WAGERING

April 24, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
New York State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Governor Cuomo:

In these unprecedented times, every level of government must work together to both protect public health and prepare for the reopening of our state. The recent opening of both marinas and private golf courses was an important step in the right direction. However, many other recreation opportunities remain closed, including local sportsmen's clubs.

These clubs allow members to shoot skeet, trap and sporting clays--all of which is done outdoors with appropriate social distancing. These activities provide a valuable recreation opportunity for those who may not boat or golf. The state has already recognized the needs of sportsmen and women by authorizing the DEC to conduct online hunter safety courses. Reopening sportsmen's clubs would build on this effort and help families pass down important traditions and knowledge of safe firearms handling.

We have been assured by many involved in the operation of these clubs that it is quite possible to operate them while still practicing social distancing.

Lifting restrictions on sportsmen and shooting sports clubs will provide more recreational opportunities for New Yorkers and will clear up confusion. This can be done while still enforcing social distancing and keeping our constituents safe.

Thank you for the consideration of this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

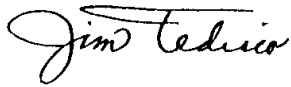
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Pamela A. Helming'.

Pamela A. Helming  
Senator, 54<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Tom F. O'Mara'.

Thomas O'Mara  
Senator, 58<sup>th</sup> District



James Tedisco  
Senator, 49<sup>th</sup> District



Andrew Lanza  
Senator, 24<sup>th</sup> District



Patrick Gallivan  
Senator, 59<sup>th</sup> District



James Seward  
Senator, 51<sup>st</sup> District



Robert Ort  
Senator, 62<sup>nd</sup> District



Joseph Robach  
Senator, 56<sup>th</sup> District



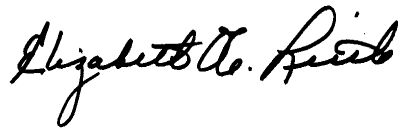
Daphne Jordan  
Senator, 43<sup>rd</sup> District



George Amedore  
Senator, 46<sup>th</sup> District



Patricia Ritchie  
Senator, 48<sup>th</sup> District



Elizabeth Little  
Senator, 45<sup>th</sup> District



George Borello  
Senator, 57<sup>th</sup> District



Rich Funke  
Senator, 55<sup>th</sup> District



Michael Ranzenhofer  
Senator, 61<sup>st</sup> District