



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph A. Griffo

Griffo statement on Governor's executive order

JOSEPH A. GRIFFO April 3, 2020

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“Today’s announcement by Gov. Cuomo that he will be signing an Executive Order that mandates the transfer of hospital supplies, including ventilators, from upstate health care facilities to downstate hospitals concerns me about what this action means for our region. I do not agree with the Governor’s approach and action he has taken to address this particular decision during this public health emergency. Before making this announcement, or any announcements, the Governor should have reached out to and informed local leaders and hospital officials. Unfortunately, that didn’t happen, and now local communities are scrambling to deal with this new order. Further, any type of intimidation or threat against any health care facility or local government is unacceptable and unthinkable from a leader in a time of crisis.

While I respect the sanctity of life and recognize the need to support and help others, the administration must ensure that any initiatives it undertakes does not put additional risk on the residents and communities of Upstate New York in any way. All regions of the state must have access to the critical resources that they need to effectively deal with any situation that may develop. I remain committed to ensuring that local hospitals and health care workers get the supplies and equipment they require, and that Mohawk Valley and North Country residents have access to the medical services they need when they need it.”