

JAMES SANDERS JR.

SENATOR, 10TH DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE:
711 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-3531
FAX (518) 426-6859

DISTRICT OFFICE:
142-01 ROCKAWAY BLVD.
S.OZONE PARK, NEW YORK 11436
(718) 523-3069
FAX (718) 523-3670

SATELLITE OFFICE:
1931 MOTT AVE., STE. 305
FAR ROCKAWAY, NY 11691
(718) 327-7017
FAX (718) 327-7970



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIRMAN, MAJORITY MEMBER

BANKS

MEMBER

COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND SMALL BUSINESS
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM,
PARKS AND RECREATION
INSURANCE
LABOR
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

May 26, 2020

The Honorable Nancy P. Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
United States Senate Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Senate Minority Leader Schumer and Governor Cuomo:

Frontline workers, also referred to as essential workers, in the battle against COVID-19 are heroes. Every day they risk their lives to protect us. New York City has been the epicenter of the COVID-19 emergency and the risks for frontline workers there are extremely high. The State of New York and the Federal Government have a responsibility to protect our frontline workers throughout the state to make sure they can operate as safe as possible.

We, the undersigned, urge you to take the following immediate actions:

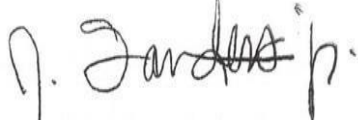
1. **Hazard Pay and/or Die in the Line of Duty Pay** - Essential workers are required to go to work when most people can stay at home during the COVID-19 emergency. These workers are often underpaid and take great sacrifices in terms of their health and family. We have an obligation to ensure these workers receive some form of compensation for their heroic efforts. Additionally, if an essential worker dies during their duties, their estate should receive a payment for their ultimate sacrifice.

2. **Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) for frontline workers** - Personal protective equipment (PPE) includes clothing, helmets, eyewear, or other equipment designed to protect the wearer's body from injury or infection. It is unacceptable that frontline workers are not provided with adequate PPE during the performance of their duties. This is a matter of life or death.

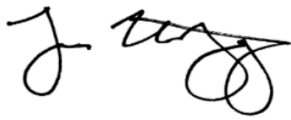
3. **Better pension and health care benefits for frontline workers (similar to the health benefits for 911 workers)** – Essential workers deserve better pension and health care benefits. They take significant health risks during their work and they should be justly compensated through better pensions and health benefits. Workers during the 911 tragedy received such benefits for their sacrifices.

Thank you for considering taking these critical actions on behalf of essential workers during the COVID-19 emergency.

Sincerely yours,



Senator James Sanders Jr.



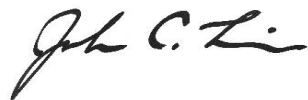
Senator Jen Metzger



Senator Monica R. Martinez



Senator Robert Jackson



Senator John C. Liu



Senator Leroy Comrie



Senator Jamaal T. Bailey



Senator Alessandra Biaggi



Senator Rachel May

CC: New York Democratic Congressional Delegation