

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



September 28, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Minority Whip
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Minority Leader Schumer, Minority Whip Durbin and Senator Gillibrand,

As members of the Republican Conference for the New York State Senate, we urgently call on you, as Senators representing our state and Senator Durbin as Minority Whip, to immediately pass a clean short-term funding extension to prevent a government shutdown that would deeply harm hardworking New Yorkers. With the September 30th funding deadline quickly approaching, we implore you to fast track the clean short-term extension that passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support.

Holding the federal government funding hostage is not just a Washington D.C. debate for political points, it has real and immediate consequences in New York State that cannot be overlooked. From impacting pay for our troops, first responders, and firefighters to affecting critical services for seniors and veterans and disrupting food assistance for families in need, a government shutdown would inflict severe consequences on New Yorkers that are completely avoidable.

There is a solution on the table that your conference should support. After all your conference did vote for this funding extension just six months ago. The clean funding extension provides stability for our military service members, veterans, and their families, as well as the continuity of low-income assistance programs. Allowing a shutdown would consequently and needlessly disrupt our economies, threaten public safety, and undermine public confidence in our institutions. Our

families and communities would feel the pain with immediate effect and confusion. A government shutdown should not be used as political leverage to pass partisan reforms—these are not chips with which Congress should be bargaining.

The proposed budget extension is a straightforward, bipartisan solution. There are no gimmicks or partisan poison pills. It's a clean, short-term funding measure that both parties have historically supported. In fact, under the Biden Administration, Congress passed thirteen clean funding extensions, putting country over party. That precedent should be honored now.

A shutdown is neither sustainable nor a responsible way to govern and the American people understand that. That is why we are calling on you to fulfill your duties, put politicking aside, and do what's best for the country: keep the government open. There is no path forward for your party's nearly \$1.5 trillion wish list that would give free healthcare to illegals and cut the single largest investment in rural healthcare in history— critical funding delivered in President Trump's tax legislation that will improve rural healthcare nationwide.

We urge you to do the right thing and act swiftly to pass a clean funding extension. New Yorkers are relying on their leaders to put good governance over politics. For the sake of security and stability, we respectfully call on you to act without delay.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Ort
Senate Minority Leader
62nd District



Senator Andrew Lanza
24th District



Senator Jack M. Martins
7th District



Senator Steve Chan
17th District



Senator William Weber
38th District



Senator Alexis Weik
8th District



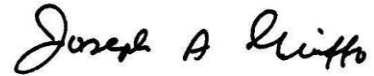
Senator Steve Rhoads
5th District



Senator Jake Ashby
43rd District



Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick
9th District



Senator Joseph Griffo
53rd District



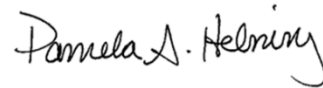
Senator George Borrello
57th District



Senator Anthony Palumbo
1st District



Senator Daniel G. Stec
45th District



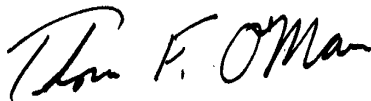
Senator Pam Helming
54th District



Senator Mark Walczyk
49th District



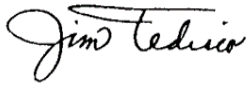
Senator Peter Oberacker
51st District



Senator Tom O'Mara
58th District



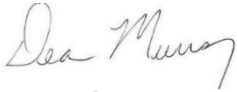
Senator Rob Rolison
39th District



Senator Jim Tedisco
44th District



Senator Patrick Gallivan
60th District



Senator Dean Murray
3rd District



Senator Mario Mattera
2nd District