

NEW YORK  
STATE  
SENATE



ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247

May 14, 2020

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo  
Governor  
State of New York  
Executive Chamber  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

As the representatives of oceanfront communities, we are writing to request the creation of an interjurisdictional task force to help coordinate and execute the safe operation of beaches for the summer season. We also offer our assistance to help you promulgate necessary regulations for that critical purpose.

Thanks to your leadership and the diligent efforts of millions of New Yorkers, the spread of COVID-19 has been dramatically reduced. Now it is finally possible to consider returning to our state's beautiful beaches. Drove of ocean-goers streaming to our shores in search of relief and relaxation following months of isolation will require unprecedented levels of planning and cooperation in light of our newfound health challenges, however. Therefore we must immediately begin to develop a comprehensive approach which will allow New Yorkers access to their beaches without endangering their lives and the lives of others.

The beach-going experience will need to be reimagined. We will need basic rules and policies to guide localities, and different jurisdictions that share beaches will need to start developing joint plans. In particular, we must consider how to reduce density at beaches to ensure that social distancing remains possible.

The taskforce should also consider how to protect and ensure the proper deployment of lifeguards and other first responders, who risk their own health to protect our constituents.

Summer weather will soon be upon us. It is critical that coastal stakeholders, under your leadership, immediately come together as a taskforce to help implement the safe opening of our beaches. We stand ready to help in any way and look forward to working with you on this vital issue for the communities we represent.

Sincerely,



Todd Kaminsky  
Senator, 9th District



Diane Savino  
Senator, 23rd District



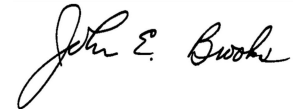
Kenneth LaValle  
Senator, 1st District



Monica Martinez  
Senator, 3rd District



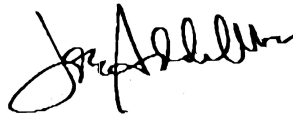
Phil Boyle  
Senator, 4th District



John Brooks  
Senator, 8th District



James Sanders  
Senator, 10th District



Joseph Addabbo, Jr.  
Senator, 15th District



Roxanne Persaud  
Senator, 19th District



Andrew Gounardes  
Senator, 22nd District



Andrew Lanza  
Senator, 24th District

CC:

Hon. Steve Bellone, Suffolk County Executive

Hon. Laura Curran, Nassau County Executive

Hon. Bill de Blasio, New York City Mayor

Commissioner Erik Kulleseid, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation