

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 22, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As Members of the New York Congressional Delegation we are writing to you to express our concerns regarding the current June 24th expiration of the Title 32, Section 502(f)(2)(A) status for National Guard troops deployed to combat COVID-19. We ask that you extend this status through the end of the year, with monthly assessments based on state requirements. The National Guard's mission to combat COVID-19 is far from over and this extension is crucial in ensuring the health of New Yorkers and all Americans.

New York leads the nation by far in COVID-19 cases with over 350,000. There are currently over 3,000 National Guard troops deployed to combat this pandemic in New York. These citizen soldiers are taking time away from their families and primary jobs to provide invaluable assistance to New York and all states. This assistance includes producing and distributing PPE, ensuring the stability of the food supply and acting as a force multiplier for first responders and medical workers.

It is our understanding that due to the March 28th start date of Section 502(f)(2)(A) status in New York, the maximum number of Title 32 days a New York Guardsmen can be deployed for coronavirus response is 88 days through June 24th. This is just shy of the threshold needed for these brave men and women to receive much deserved benefits. Members of the National Guard should not be cheated out of what they earned in this pandemic.

State governments like New York have relied heavily on the assistance provided by the National Guard during this unprecedented emergency. A premature conclusion for Title 32, Section 502(f)(2)(A) status for National Guard troops would only dangerously weaken States' abilities to protect their citizens and needlessly expend more American lives and resources. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



PETER T. KING
Member of Congress



THOMAS R. SUOZZI
Member of Congress



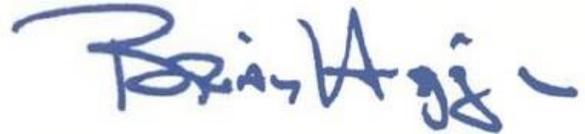
ELISE STEFANIK
Member of Congress



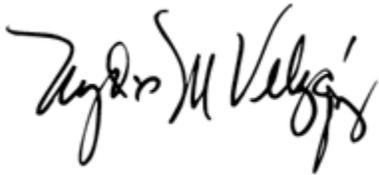
ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ
Member of Congress



JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress



BRIAN HIGGINS
Member of Congress



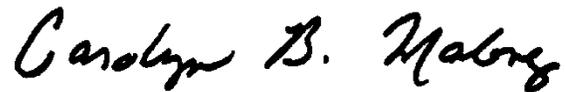
NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ
Member of Congress



HAKEEM JEFFRIES
Member of Congress



MAX ROSE
Member of Congress



CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress



GRACE MENG
Member of Congress



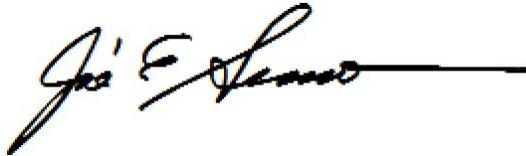
KATHLEEN M. RICE
Member of Congress



ANTHONY BRINDISI
Member of Congress



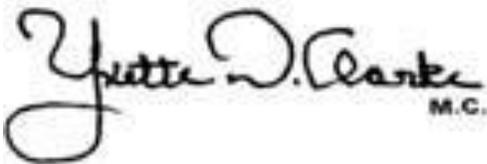
ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress



JOSÉ E. SERRANO
Member of Congress



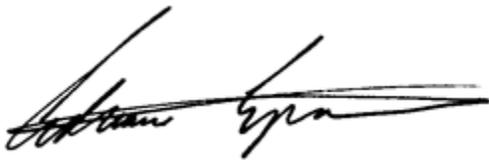
GREGORY W. MEEKS
Member of Congress



YVETTE D. CLARKE
Member of Congress



ANTONIO DELGADO
Member of Congress



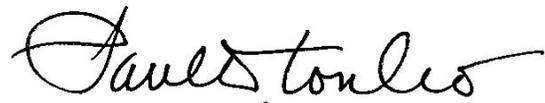
ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
Member of Congress



SEAN PATRICK MALONEY
Member of Congress



JOSEPH D. MORELLE
Member of Congress



PAUL D. TONKO
Member of Congress

CC: Secretary Esper