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**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



**JEN METZGER
SENATOR, 42ND DISTRICT**

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March 30, 2020

Acting Commissioner Anthony Annucci
NYS Department of Correctional and Community Supervision
1220 Washington Avenue
Building #2
Albany, N.Y. 12226

Dear Commissioner Annucci:

I am writing out of concern for the health and well-being of the thousands of corrections officers and staff employed by the seven correctional facilities under your jurisdiction in my Senate district, as well as the many thousands of incarcerated individuals housed in these facilities. Employees and their family members have reached out directly to my office expressing great concern that these facilities are inadequately prepared to protect their health and safety and prevent the spread of COVID-19. I urge that your Department review the protocols in place, including but not limited to re-evaluating the need for personal protection equipment in these facilities as well as ensuring that all staff receive proper training on how to best prevent the spread of COVID-19 within these facilities and when they return to their families and communities at the end of the work day. Correctional facilities, where numerous people are in close quarters daily, are particularly vulnerable to the spread of COVID-19, and I implore your Department to take the steps necessary to protect the health and safety of employees, the prison population, and the surrounding community.

Thank you for your work and leadership during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jen Metzger', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Senator Jen Metzger
New York State Senate, 42nd District