

New Jersey Senate

SENATE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

NEW JERSEY STATE HOUSE

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January 7, 2021

The Honorable Steve Sweeney
Senate Democratic Office
P.O. Box 099
Trenton, NJ, 08625

The Honorable Craig Coughlin
Assembly Democratic Office
P.O. Box 098
Trenton, NJ, 08625

Dear President Sweeney and Speaker Coughlin,

We write to urge you to schedule votes to override Governor Murphy's veto of legislation, A-4525, that was intended to help restaurants, bars, and breweries to survive the economic harm caused by nearly a year of indoor dining restrictions due to COVID-19.

At no time during the months the bill was under consideration did Governor Murphy express concerns with the bipartisan legislation, which passed through both houses of the Legislature without a single dissenting vote.

This legislation is a measured and temporary response to help struggling establishments in all our communities to remain viable by allowing expanded food and beverage service to outdoor spaces they own or lease, including patios, decks, yards, walkways, parking lots, and sidewalks.

We have been warned by representatives of the restaurant industry and operators of local establishments that many restaurants, bars, and breweries are on the brink of closing. They simply cannot make enough to pay their bills under current limitations.

Governor Murphy's inaction on other fronts to support small businesses, including restaurants, makes the override of his veto of A-4525 all the more urgent. We urge you to schedule override votes in both chambers as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Joe Pennacchio in black ink.

Joe Pennacchio
Whip

Handwritten signature of Thomas Kean in black ink.

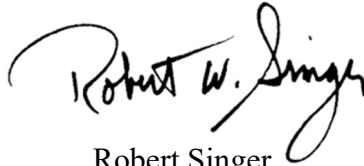
Thomas Kean
Leader

Handwritten signature of Kristin Corrado in black ink.

Kristin Corrado
Conference Leader



Kip Bateman
Deputy Whip



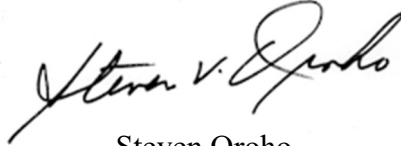
Robert Singer
Deputy Leader



Chris Brown
Deputy Conference Leader



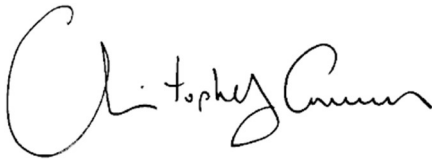
Anthony M. Bucco
Senator – District 25



Steven Oroho
Budget Officer



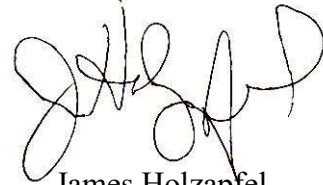
Gerald Cardinale
Senator – District 39



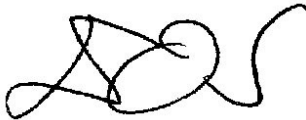
Christopher Connors
Senator – District 9



Michael Doherty
Senator – District 23



James Holzapfel
Senator – District 10



Declan O'Scanlon
Senator – District 13



Michael Testa
Senator – District 1



Samuel Thompson
Senator – District 12

cc: Kevin Drennan
Executive Director – Senate Democrats

Skip Cimino
Executive Director – Assembly Democrats