



## NEW YORK STATE SENATE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY

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### Joint Statement From Senate Committee Chairs May, Rivera, & Skoufis

\*Attached see response from the Department of Health\*

"In late January, we made it explicitly clear to the Administration that we expected answers to our outstanding nursing home questions by the time Commissioner Zucker presented testimony at the forthcoming health budget hearing. While we appreciate that our letter from August 2020 has finally been answered and, two weeks ago, nursing home data was released, it is unacceptable that it took so long. Our original letter was sent following 40 hours of hearing testimony and after so many legislators, families, and members of the public demanded answers.

As we release this information publicly, we will be reviewing the responses and we look forward to continuing to follow up with the Administration, including at the upcoming budget hearing. We had a very productive meeting tonight with the administration and look forward to continuing this dialogue.

To be clear, we will certainly have more questions as we review this information. While some of our Republican colleagues in the Legislature continue to shamefully play politics with the tragedy that unfolded in our state's nursing homes, we are, instead, committed to getting answers, holding stakeholders accountable, and advancing legislative solutions in a sober, thoughtful manner. That's exactly what we are doing and what we will continue to do."

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