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August 4, 2020

Hon. Andrew Joyce, Chairman
Legislative Clerk's Office
112 State St., Room 710
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce,

Authorization is requested to contract with Community Maternity Service (CMS) to provide Maternity shelter care via a State-certified 11-bed maternity shelter for pregnant females who require temporary accommodations, supervision and services. Only the stays of individuals eligible for public assistance will be reimbursed under this contract.

CMS is a Transitional Living Program of Albany County which provides specialized services to youth who are parenting children. The services that are offered are not provided anywhere else in our system and the focus is on developing life skills and independence. By removing this type of client from the general shelter population, and placing them in a shelter program tailored to their specific needs, we feel that this service would be extremely valuable to young women and provide better outcomes for long-term self-sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Michele G. McClave
Commissioner

cc: Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader
Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader
Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel
Minority Counsel