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January 3, 2024

Hon. Joanne Cunningham, Chairwoman
Legislative Clerk's Office
112 State St., Room 710
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham,

The Department of Social Services respectfully requests legislative approval for the following:

IPH operates its low-barrier Safe Haven Shelter from November thru April, for homeless adults who have no other options for shelter and would otherwise be residing on the street, in abandoned buildings, or in other places not meant for human habitation.

Safe Haven provides overnight shelter, a hot meal, and access to free laundry services, showers, clothing and hygiene items and case management services. The shelter is open every night, from 4:30pm-8:30am and is staffed by a minimum of four IPH employees during the evening shift and a minimum of two on overnight shifts. IPH is also open during the weekends, as needed, during extreme weather conditions. IPH has a Lead Attendant to be the onsite supervisor as well as for scheduling, call outs, etc.

Sincerely,

Michele G. McClave
Commissioner

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