

**Exhibit B**

December 10, 2020

By Email

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo  
Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins  
Speaker Carl E. Heastie  
Minority Leader Robert G. Ort  
Minority Leader William A. Barclay

Dear Colleagues:

The commissioners of the Independent Redistricting Commission respectfully request that the appropriations allocated to the Commission in the Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21 New York State budgets be released for the Commission to fulfill the work that is required as stated in the New York State Constitution. As stated in our letter to you, dated September 8, 2020, the Constitution mandates this funding and does not contemplate an indefinite delay before releasing it.

The Legislature has appropriated, through the Department of State, funding for the Commission, but for reasons unknown to us, that agency has failed to release the funding. Article III, Section 5-b of the New York State Constitution mandates that the necessary appropriations for the Commission to perform its duties and prepare a redistricting plan by January 2022. Without the appropriated funds we cannot execute our mandated duties within the statutory time frame.

The U.S. Census Bureau has indicated that there may be a delay in the release of apportionment numbers. However, their schedule for the release of geographic products such as the TIGER Line file, has not changed. The commission must have staff hired and ready to receive this data by January 22, 2021.

We are urging you to release the funding so we may initiate the hiring process for staff, as required by the amendment, and begin the great task before us. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission

Eugene Benger  
Ross Brady  
Ivelisse Cuevas-Molina  
John Flateau  
Elaine Frazier

David Imamura  
Jack Martins  
Charles Nesbitt  
George Winner  
Keith Wofford

Cc: Director Robert F. Mujica Jr.