



MATTHEW J. SLATER
Assemblyman 94th District

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August 8, 2023

Commissioner Adrienne Harris
New York State Department of Financial Services
1 State Street
New York, NY 10004

Dear Commissioner Harris:

As the sponsors of Assembly Bill 5301, we are contacting you with an urgent request that impacts both our national security and the safety of every New York State resident. This important legislation empowers New York State to address the burgeoning threat created by the acquisition of real property in the United States by hostile foreign actors and regimes.

Earlier this month, several major media outlets reported on the investigation into a mystery company that purchased 54,000 acres surrounding Travis Air Force Base in California. According to published reports, federal officials have been unable to ascertain who is involved with this company, Flannery Associates, despite the fact that it has made nearly \$1 billion in these land purchases since the beginning of this year.

This follows a series of disturbing large property acquisitions, particularly involving farmland, by foreign entities that are hostile to the United States and its interests. Shockingly, 384,000 acres of American agricultural land is now controlled by China, causing the U.S. Department of Agriculture to express concern about the alarming rate at which these purchases have occurred.

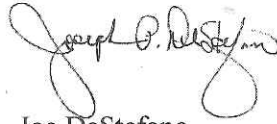
Similar to the intervention which halted the sale of 300 acres of farmland near Grand Forks Air Force Base to the Chinese-owned Fufeng Group after national security concerns were raised, New York State cannot wait to act until the State Legislature reconvenes in January and considers A.5301. As such, we respectfully request that your Department use its regulatory authority to investigate and, if necessary, intervene in an transactions involved the sale of real property located in New York State to individuals, companies or entities owned or controlled by a foreign country of particular concern, as identified by the United States Department of State.

New York State is a constant target of our enemies and we must remain vigilant at all times of their efforts and methods to infiltrate our state. Inaction will pose a significant threat which is why we are strongly urging you to take the necessary actions to protect the Empire State.

Respectfully,



Matt Slater
New York State Assembly
94th District



Joe DeStefano
New York State Assembly
3rd District



Brian Maher
New York State Assembly
101st District



Anil Beephan, Jr.
New York State Assembly
105th District



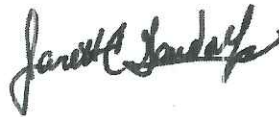
Michael Durso
New York State Assembly
9th District



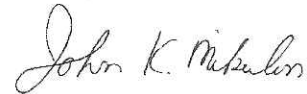
Brian Manktelow
New York State Assembly
130th District



Scott Bendett
New York State Assembly
107th District



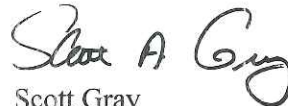
Jarett Gandolfo
New York State Assembly
7th District



John Mikulin
New York State Assembly
17th District



Karl Brabenec
New York State Assembly
98th District



Scott Gray
New York State Assembly
116th District



Michael Reilly
New York State Assembly
62nd District



Ari Brown
New York State Assembly
20th District



John Lemondes
New York State Assembly
126th District



Chris Tague
New York State Assembly
102nd District