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ANGELO SANTABARBARA
Assemblyman 111th District

July 21st, 2023

The Hon. Paul Tonko
United States House of Representatives
2369 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Tonko,

I am writing to you today regarding an urgent and deeply troubling situation that has severely impacted our community in Rotterdam, New York, and demands immediate action.

As the Assemblyman representing this area, I am absolutely outraged by the recent actions taken by New York City Mayor Eric Adams to bus migrants to the Super 8 Motel in the town of Rotterdam, Schenectady County, for long-term housing. This decision has resulted in the displacement of vulnerable individuals who were already residing at this location due to difficult circumstances. Many of these individuals were living in poverty and experiencing personal hardships, while others were placed there by Social Services. The abrupt eviction of these already struggling individuals on Tuesday morning, July 18th, is completely unacceptable and has left them to fend for themselves.

While I recognize the importance of addressing the challenges faced by migrants, it is deeply concerning that the well-being of our vulnerable community members has been completely disregarded. The lack of prior consultation or coordination with local representatives, including my office, is highly troubling. We only became aware of the situation through mere rumors and speculations, indicating a lack of transparency and communication from the Mayor's office. Such disrespect and disregard for our community's concerns cannot be tolerated.

As our federal representative, I urgently implore you to take immediate action to address this issue. The federal government must intervene to put an end to this chaotic and unfair situation. Proper protocols and consultation should be followed to ensure the best interests of all parties involved are safeguarded. I kindly request that you use your influence and authority to work towards finding a fair and equitable solution. Additionally, I urge you to advocate for policies that prioritize open communication and cooperation between federal, state, and local authorities in critical matters like this.

I firmly believe that with your assistance, we can reach a resolution that ensures our principles of compassion and fairness are upheld. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon and working collaboratively to find a just resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angelo Santabarbara". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "A".

Angelo Santabarbara
Member of the New York State Assembly
111th District | Representing areas of Montgomery & Schenectady Counties