March 27, 2018

Dear Speaker Heastie:

We write to express our support for legislation A6838 and to describe from the perspective of the New York City Board of Correction the need for the appropriate use of body scanners in the New York City jails. By effectively detecting contraband, which currently cannot be detected in the City’s jails, these scanners will provide an increased measure of safety to people working in the jails and to people in custody therein.

Slashings and stabbings remain an alarming threat in the city’s jails. There were 132 slashings in the City’s jails in 2017, and 19 in this year to date. These scanners would improve the Department of Correction’s ability to identify and remove dangerous weapons, including knives and scalpels, which currently cannot be detected by metal detectors and are small enough to avoid detection during a pat frisk. The Department of Correction has been limited in its ability to stop the slashings, in part, because it does not have a reliable mechanism to find these weapons and remove them from circulation.

The Board recognizes that any exposure to additional ionizing radiation, even in this case when data suggests that the exposure is very low risk, should be taken seriously. Regulation and oversight by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will create parameters for safe utilization of these scanners.

New York City has already taken significant steps towards safer, fairer, and more humane jails, including major increases in programming; new intensive care mental health units; expanded training for uniform staff; new regulations to prevent and respond to sexual violence; nation-leading reforms of punitive segregation; and a city-wide commitment to a reduced jail population. Used in partnership with these other initiatives, the body scanners will undoubtedly contribute to a decrease in violence in the City’s jails.
In asking for your support of this legislation, we are proud to join with New York City Department of Correction Commissioner Cynthia Brann, New York City Council Member Keith Powers and his colleagues, New York State Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan and his colleagues, COBA President Elias Husamudeen and the City’s correction officers, as well as community-based organizations such as Osborne Association, Fortune Society, and many others.

We urge you and our other state legislators to pass A6838 and allow the use of body scanners in the New York City jails. This change will have an immediate and significant impact of the reduction of violence and contraband. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions with regard to our support of the legislation or to otherwise discuss this issue.

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Martha W. King
Executive Director

Robert L. Cohen, M.D.
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Board Member

Michael J. Regan
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Weprin:

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Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Gottfried:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Cymbrowitz:

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Dear Assembly Member Mosley:

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Dear Assembly Member Sepulveda:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Paulin:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Dickens:

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Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Harris:

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March 27, 2018

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Zobrowski:

We write to express our support for legislation A6838 and to describe from the perspective of the New York City Board of Correction the need for the appropriate use of body scanners in the New York City jails. By effectively detecting contraband, which currently cannot be detected in the City’s jails, these scanners will provide an increased measure of safety to people working in the jails and to people in custody therein.

Slashings and stabbings remain an alarming threat in the city’s jails. There were 132 slashings in the City’s jails in 2017, and 19 in this year to date. These scanners would improve the Department of Correction’s ability to identify and remove dangerous weapons, including knives and scalpels, which currently cannot be detected by metal detectors and are small enough to avoid detection during a pat frisk. The Department of Correction has been limited in its ability to stop the slashings, in part, because it does not have a reliable mechanism to find these weapons and remove them from circulation.

The Board recognizes that any exposure to additional ionizing radiation, even in this case when data suggests that the exposure is very low risk, should be taken seriously. Regulation and oversight by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will create parameters for safe utilization of these scanners.

New York City has already taken significant steps towards safer, fairer, and more humane jails, including major increases in programming; new intensive care mental health units; expanded training for uniform staff; new regulations to prevent and respond to sexual violence; nation-leading reforms of punitive segregation; and a city-wide commitment to a reduced jail population. Used in partnership with these other initiatives, the body scanners will undoubtedly contribute to a decrease in violence in the City’s jails.
In asking for your support of this legislation, we are proud to join with New York City Department of Correction Commissioner Cynthia Brann, New York City Council Member Keith Powers and his colleagues, New York State Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan and his colleagues, COBA President Elias Husamudeen and the City’s correction officers, as well as community-based organizations such as Osborne Association, Fortune Society, and many others.

We urge you and our other state legislators to pass A6838 and allow the use of body scanners in the New York City jails. This change will have an immediate and significant impact of the reduction of violence and contraband. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions with regard to our support of the legislation or to otherwise discuss this issue.

Very truly yours,

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Steven M. Safyer, M.D.
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Jones:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Brindinsi:

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Dear Assembly Member Fahy:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Rodriguez:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Dinowitz:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Miller:

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March 27, 2018

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Board Member
Dear Assembly Member Skartados:

We write to express our support for legislation A6838 and to describe from the perspective of the New York City Board of Correction the need for the appropriate use of body scanners in the New York City jails. By effectively detecting contraband, which currently cannot be detected in the City’s jails, these scanners will provide an increased measure of safety to people working in the jails and to people in custody therein.

Slashings and stabbings remain an alarming threat in the city’s jails. There were 132 slashings in the City’s jails in 2017, and 19 in this year to date. These scanners would improve the Department of Correction’s ability to identify and remove dangerous weapons, including knives and scalpels, which currently cannot be detected by metal detectors and are small enough to avoid detection during a pat frisk. The Department of Correction has been limited in its ability to stop the slashings, in part, because it does not have a reliable mechanism to find these weapons and remove them from circulation.

The Board recognizes that any exposure to additional ionizing radiation, even in this case when data suggests that the exposure is very low risk, should be taken seriously. Regulation and oversight by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will create parameters for safe utilization of these scanners.

New York City has already taken significant steps towards safer, fairer, and more humane jails, including major increases in programming; new intensive care mental health units; expanded training for uniform staff; new regulations to prevent and respond to sexual violence; nation-leading reforms of punitive segregation; and a city-wide commitment to a reduced jail population. Used in partnership with these other initiatives, the body scanners will undoubtedly contribute to a decrease in violence in the City’s jails.
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Very truly yours,

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James Perrino
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Executive Director

Robert L. Cohen, M.D.
Board Member

Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
Board Member

Michael J. Regan
Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Pellegrino:

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Michael J. Regan
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Crespo:

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Michael J. Regan
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Dear Assembly Member Galef:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Thiele:

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Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Magee:

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Board Member

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Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Ortiz:

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Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
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Michael J. Regan
Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member McDonald:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Rivera:

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March 27, 2018
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Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Quart:

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Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
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James Perrino
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Steven M. Safyer, M.D.
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Skoufis:

We write to express our support for legislation A6838 and to describe from the perspective of the New York City Board of Correction the need for the appropriate use of body scanners in the New York City jails. By effectively detecting contraband, which currently cannot be detected in the City’s jails, these scanners will provide an increased measure of safety to people working in the jails and to people in custody therein.

Slashings and stabbings remain an alarming threat in the city’s jails. There were 132 slashings in the City’s jails in 2017, and 19 in this year to date. These scanners would improve the Department of Correction’s ability to identify and remove dangerous weapons, including knives and scalpels, which currently cannot be detected by metal detectors and are small enough to avoid detection during a pat frisk. The Department of Correction has been limited in its ability to stop the slashings, in part, because it does not have a reliable mechanism to find these weapons and remove them from circulation.

The Board recognizes that any exposure to additional ionizing radiation, even in this case when data suggests that the exposure is very low risk, should be taken seriously. Regulation and oversight by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will create parameters for safe utilization of these scanners.

New York City has already taken significant steps towards safer, fairer, and more humane jails, including major increases in programming; new intensive care mental health units; expanded training for uniform staff; new regulations to prevent and respond to sexual violence; nation-leading reforms of punitive segregation; and a city-wide commitment to a reduced jail population. Used in partnership with these other initiatives, the body scanners will undoubtedly contribute to a decrease in violence in the City’s jails.
In asking for your support of this legislation, we are proud to join with New York City Department of Correction Commissioner Cynthia Brann, New York City Council Member Keith Powers and his colleagues, New York State Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan and his colleagues, COBA President Elias Husamudeen and the City’s correction officers, as well as community-based organizations such as Osborne Association, Fortune Society, and many others.

We urge you and our other state legislators to pass A6838 and allow the use of body scanners in the New York City jails. This change will have an immediate and significant impact of the reduction of violence and contraband. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions with regard to our support of the legislation or to otherwise discuss this issue.

Very truly yours,

Derrick D. Cephas
Acting Chair

Stanley Richards
Acting Vice-Chair

p.p. James Perrino
Board Member

Martha W. King
Executive Director

Robert L. Cohen, M.D.
Board Member

Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
Board Member

Steven M. Safyer, M.D.
Board Member

Michael J. Regan
Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Santabarbara:

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Michael J. Regan  
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Steven M. Safyer, M.D.  
Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Bendetto:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Kim:

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March 27, 2018

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Lentol:

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Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Carroll:

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Michael J. Regan
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Joyner:

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Michael J. Regan
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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Hoop:

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Dear Assembly Member Abbate:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Taylor:

We write to express our support for legislation A6838 and to describe from the perspective of the New York City Board of Correction the need for the appropriate use of body scanners in the New York City jails. By effectively detecting contraband, which currently cannot be detected in the City’s jails, these scanners will provide an increased measure of safety to people working in the jails and to people in custody therein.

Slashings and stabbings remain an alarming threat in the city’s jails. There were 132 slashings in the City’s jails in 2017, and 19 in this year to date. These scanners would improve the Department of Correction’s ability to identify and remove dangerous weapons, including knives and scalpels, which currently cannot be detected by metal detectors and are small enough to avoid detection during a pat frisk. The Department of Correction has been limited in its ability to stop the slashings, in part, because it does not have a reliable mechanism to find these weapons and remove them from circulation.

The Board recognizes that any exposure to additional ionizing radiation, even in this case when data suggests that the exposure is very low risk, should be taken seriously. Regulation and oversight by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will create parameters for safe utilization of these scanners.

New York City has already taken significant steps towards safer, fairer, and more humane jails, including major increases in programming; new intensive care mental health units; expanded training for uniform staff; new regulations to prevent and respond to sexual violence; nation-leading reforms of punitive segregation; and a city-wide commitment to a reduced jail population. Used in partnership with these other initiatives, the body scanners will undoubtedly contribute to a decrease in violence in the City’s jails.
In asking for your support of this legislation, we are proud to join with New York City Department of Correction Commissioner Cynthia Brann, New York City Council Member Keith Powers and his colleagues, New York State Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan and his colleagues, COBA President Elias Husamudeen and the City’s correction officers, as well as community-based organizations such as Osborne Association, Fortune Society, and many others.

We urge you and our other state legislators to pass A6838 and allow the use of body scanners in the New York City jails. This change will have an immediate and significant impact of the reduction of violence and contraband. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions with regard to our support of the legislation or to otherwise discuss this issue.

Very truly yours,

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Acting Chair

Stanley Richards
Acting Vice-Chair


Honorable Bryanne Hamill
Board Member

James Perrino
Board Member

Steven M. Safyer, M.D.
Board Member

Martha W. King
Executive Director

Robert L. Cohen, M.D.
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Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
Board Member

Michael J. Regan
Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Gunther:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Lupardo:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member McDonough:

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member O'Donnell:

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March 27, 2018

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Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Aubry:

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March 27, 2018

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March 27, 2018

Dear Assembly Member Cook:

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Dear Assembly Member Simotas:

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March 27, 2018

Assembly Member Michael Blake
Room 919 LOB
Albany, NY 12248
blakem@nyassembly.gov
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Michael J. Regan
Board Member
March 27, 2018

Dear Sir or Madam,

We write to express our support for legislation A6838 and to describe from the perspective of the New York City Board of Correction the need for the appropriate use of body scanners in the New York City jails. By effectively detecting contraband, which currently cannot be detected in the City’s jails, these scanners will provide an increased measure of safety to people working in the jails and to people in custody therein.

Slashings and stabbings remain an alarming threat in the city’s jails. There were 132 slashings in the City’s jails in 2017, and 19 in this year to date. These scanners would improve the Department of Correction’s ability to identify and remove dangerous weapons, including knives and scalpels, which currently cannot be detected by metal detectors and are small enough to avoid detection during a pat frisk. The Department of Correction has been limited in its ability to stop the slashings, in part, because it does not have a reliable mechanism to find these weapons and remove them from circulation.

The Board recognizes that any exposure to additional ionizing radiation, even in this case when data suggests that the exposure is very low risk, should be taken seriously. Regulation and oversight by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will create parameters for safe utilization of these scanners.

New York City has already taken significant steps towards safer, fairer, and more humane jails, including major increases in programming; new intensive care mental health units; expanded training for uniform staff; new regulations to prevent and respond to sexual violence; nation-leading reforms of punitive segregation; and a city-wide commitment to a reduced jail population. Used in partnership with these other initiatives, the body scanners will undoubtedly contribute to a decrease in violence in the City’s jails.

In asking for your support of this legislation, we are proud to join with New York City Department of Correction Commissioner Cynthia Brann, New York City Council Member Keith Powers and his colleagues, New York State Senate Majority Leader John...
Flanagan and his colleagues, COBA President Elias Husamudeen and the City’s correction officers, as well as community-based organizations such as Osborne Association, Fortune Society, and many others.

We urge you and our other state legislators to pass A6838 and allow the use of body scanners in the New York City jails. This change will have an immediate and significant impact of the reduction of violence and contraband. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions with regard to our support of the legislation or to otherwise discuss this issue.

Very truly yours,

Derrick D. Cephas
Acting Chair

Stanley Richards
Acting Vice-Chair

Honorable Bryanne Hamill
Board Member

James Perrino
Board Member

Steven M. Safyer, M.D.
Board Member

Martha W. King
Executive Director

Robert L. Cohen, M.D.
Board Member

Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq.
Board Member

Michael J. Regan
Board Member