I'm writing as a member of Nonprofit Westchester, **and on behalf of Name of agency (DESCRIBE AGENCY VERY BRIEFLY). We are deeply concerned about onerous regulations included in the Fund for Excluded Workers that will place** the people who desperately need financial serious risk of not receiving it.

Just a week before the launch of the program, the Cuomo administration included barriers to relief in the program regulations. These barriers include:

* That a worker must attest to losing 50% of their weekly earnings to qualify for the fund. This threshold will exclude thousands of low-income essential workers who earned less than the required $26,208 income threshold but did not lose 50% of their weekly earnings.
* The regulations require workers to provide work-related documentation that will relegate workers paid-off-the-books to Tier 2 benefits and could cut cash economy workers completely out of the fund.
* The Department of Labor must add more options for demonstrating identity and residency. Many excluded workers rent rooms, aren’t listed on the lease, and their names aren’t listed on utility bills.

We have serious concerns that these requirements will deny workers of particular industries, some in more informal economies, the benefits they fought so hard for.

We respectfully request that you contact the Department of Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon to ask for a meeting to address these concerns urging the DOL to exercise discretion and exercise discretion and the broadest interpretations of the documents possible to ensure the fund is accessible to all excluded workers

**Key legislators and their emails**

Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins, Majority Leader, scousins@nysenate.gov

Senator Shelley Mayer, smayer@nysenate.gov

Senator Alessandra Biaggi, biaggi@nysenate.gov

Assembly Member Amy Paulin, paulina@nyassembly.gov

Assembly Member Chris Burdick, burdickc@nyassembly.gov

Assembly Member Tom Abinanti, abinantit@nyassembly.gov