NEW JERSEY SENATE



JOSEPH M. KYRILLOS, JR.

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COMMITTEES
MEMBER, JUDICIARY
MEMBER, ECONOMIC GROWTH

March 1, 2015

The Honorable Elizabeth Connelly Department of Human Services 222 South Warren Street Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Acting Commissioner Connelly,

Thank you for the letter dated February 12, 2015 in response to our request for information regarding the Department of Human Services' plan to use Fort Monmouth to house individuals traveling from overseas who may have been exposed to the Ebola virus.

It continues to be our position that Fort Monmouth, at a time when New Jersey is attempting to market it as a place for businesses to grow, create jobs and serve as an area for new housing opportunities, should not be utilized for anything that may jeopardize its long term viability. Through further research, we understand that an agreement was signed by both the State and the Fort Monmouth Redevelopment Authority to use the facility for a period of six months which expires on June 30, 2015. We request that DHS not extend this unnecessary and potentially damaging decision beyond the original end date and request that we be kept informed of any future plans between DHS and Fort Monmouth.

Furthermore in the previous correspondence it was stated that local, county and State officials were contacted and made aware of the plans – speaking on behalf of the State delegation, we were not formally briefed on this matter. Additionally, the public received no notice – before or otherwise of this decision.

We appreciate your taking the time to address our concerns and again request that we be kept informed of future plans involving Fort Monmouth.

Sincerely

Senator Joseph M. Kyrillos, Jr.

Assemblyweman Amy Handlin

Assemblyman Declan O'Scanlon

Common Beek

Assemblywoman Mary Pat Angelini

Assemblywoman Caroline Casagrande