



August 2026

Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor
Executive Chamber, State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

RE: State Job Vacancy Study

Dear Governor Hochul,

As a member of the New York State Public Employees Federation (PEF), I urge you to approve legislation recently passed by both houses of the State Legislature to require the President of the state Civil Service Commission to conduct a study on job vacancies across state agencies (S.8209 by Sen. Jackson/A.2633 by Asm. Lunsford).

State agencies continue to struggle with staffing. Without adequate staffing, they cannot fulfill the crucial responsibilities they have in serving New Yorkers, and without data about these vacancies, we as a union cannot successfully address these substantial shortages.

This study would establish the vacancies in our state agencies as well as make recommendations to more successfully fill these vacancies. This data is crucial to fix the problem of substantial worker shortages with which our state agencies are currently struggling.

Despite volumes of anecdotal data, obtaining specific information about the numbers of unfulfilled positions has been difficult to find. A study led by the President of the State Civil Service Commission will provide a complete picture of the vacancies and what is being done to fill open positions. This is a necessary first step to develop solutions to the state's worker shortage.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to sign this legislation into law.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____