

**Craig A. Hayner**  
County Clerk

**Shauna M. Sutton**  
Deputy County Clerk

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Deputy County Clerk



## **Saratoga County Clerk's Office**

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June 24, 2019

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

I write to you today regarding the "Green Light" bill recently signed into law by Governor Andrew Cuomo of New York. Respectfully, I ask that you please consider directing the Justice Department to commence an immediate review of the law and render an opinion regarding whether this legislation, including the process in which some proven identification safeguards have been removed, should be reviewed in federal court.

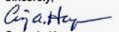
As an agent for New York State, I administer three Department of Motor Vehicle offices, which under this law would be required to issue driver's licenses to "undocumented" individuals who are unable to prove their legal immigration status. I am aware that other states offer driver's licenses in a similar fashion, however, it is my understanding that those states issue licenses that are materially different from the licenses issued to those who can prove citizenship and to those who can prove they are in the U.S. lawfully. This law requires the non-compliant licenses to be "visually identical" to federally compliant licenses and simply stamped, "not for federal purposes." This law also restricts the Department of Motor Vehicles from disclosing information to federal law enforcement agencies.

Furthermore, as the Clerk of Saratoga County, I have sworn an oath to uphold both the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of New York. All motor vehicle clerks also swear this same oath of office. It is my opinion, that this law may bring those two oaths into conflict.

Mr. President, I believe this law circumvents federal immigration laws and should be reviewed at the highest levels of government to determine unilaterally whether this legislation is indeed constitutional. As you are aware, state law cannot conflict with federal law and where conflicts may exist, federal law supersedes. It is for those reasons that I am writing to you today and respectfully ask that the Justice Department review this legislation before it goes into effect on December 14, 2019.

I have enclosed, for your reference, State Senate bill S.1747B and State Assembly bill A.3675B, the legislation signed by Governor Cuomo; my position statement; and two relevant news reports. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Craig A. Hayner  
Saratoga County Clerk