Dear Speaker Heastie and Members of the Assembly,

New York is facing a crisis of corporate concentration — but you and the Assembly Majority Conference can do something serious to address it.

In both product and labor markets across the state, a few large corporations dominate, enabling them to push down wages, degrade working conditions, kill jobs, stifle innovation, and drive local businesses under. From delivery drivers to family farmers to independent pharmacists to home health aides and beyond, no worker or sector of the economy is untouched by this pervasive power.

To deliver the economic opportunity that New Yorkers want and deserve, the Legislature must make sure that workers, communities, and local businesses are not subjected to the unfair whims and abusive tactics of dominant corporations, that New Yorkers are able to work and live where they like, and that they are able to start a business without fear of retaliation or harm from a dominant corporation.

This requires a whole-of-government effort, and while there is no single silver bullet for reining in and reversing out-of-control corporate consolidation, several pieces of legislation have already passed the State Senate that would make meaningful progress toward that goal.

Now the Assembly must act with urgency to protect New Yorkers from unchecked corporate power. The undersigned state-based and national organizations strongly urge the Assembly to consider and pass these bills when it reconvenes this week:

- A ban on noncompete agreements (S3100A/A1278)
- The LLC Transparency Act (S995B/A3484)
- The Warehouse Worker Injury Reduction Act (S5081A/A3309A)
- A ban on nondisclosure agreements in economic subsidy deals (S545/A211A)
- Repeal of the Opportunity Zone tax subsidy (S543/A2170)

These pieces of legislation together would increase worker mobility and safety, increase transparency, lower prices for consumers, and ensure that public dollars support public goods, not the investments of out-of-state billionaires.

They would constitute a serious and meaningful start toward challenging consolidated corporate power and improving the lives of workers across New York.

Polls consistently show that constituents want their leaders to rein in and tax dominant corporations, create good, high-paying jobs, and protect local businesses. It’s time for the Assembly to step up and do just that — and we’ll support you strongly when you do.

Sincerely,

Alliance for a Greater New York (Align)
Amazon Labor Union
American Economic Liberties Project
Carroll Gardens Association (CGA)
Cooper Square Committee
Fight Corporate Monopolies
Fiscal Policy Institute
For the Many
Good Jobs First
Housing Works, Inc.
Indivisible Harlem
Indivisible Mohawk Valley
Institute for Local Self-Reliance
Inwood Indivisible
National Employment Law Project
New York Communities for Change
New York State Council of Churches
New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness
Open Markets Institute
PEER/NYPAN Suffolk County
Solidarity Committee, Capital District
State Innovation Exchange (SiX) Action
Strong Economy for All
Teamsters Local 118
Teamsters local 804