

February 4, 2010

David A. Paterson
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Paterson,

You have proposed to close **Lyon Mountain Correctional Facility**. This prison is a vital part of our community here in northern New York. The closure of this facility would be detrimental to not only the small area of Lyon Mountain but also surrounding towns in Clinton County, Franklin County, and Essex County. **Lyon Mountain Correctional Facility** is one of the largest sources of employment for many residents. This correctional facility contributes over \$25,000 annually to the Town of Dannemora for water fees!

Since 1995, Lyon Mountain inmates have logged over 400,000 hours of community service. In addition the many employees at **Lyon Mountain Correctional** have been very active in the community. Many employees serve as volunteer firefighters, coaches, and serve on many community committees. Each year, **Lyon Mountain Correctional** staff and inmates participate in the annual "Make a Difference Day". This day assists many needy residents. In 2001, inmates at Lyon Mountain installed more than 4,000 seats in the grandstand area at the Franklin County Fairgrounds; another crew painted the day care center at Clinton Community College. Even as recent as the last few weeks the **Lyon Mountain Correctional Facility** has come to help the community as the Town of Dannemora recently lost their Highway Garage in a 1/1/2010 fire. **The closure of Lyon Mountain Correctional** will have a gross adverse impact on its community including the many area small businesses. Some of these businesses will never be able to replace the revenue drawn from the many employees that work at the facility.

I respectfully ask that the decision to close Lyon Mountain Correctional Facility be reversed. It is critical to northern New York that Lyon Mountain Correctional remains open. We cannot further burden the area taxpayers and small business owners. I urge you to reconsider your decision and stand up for northern New York taxpayers!

Very truly yours,