

WHAT I WROTE

*My Subject line: Fwd: Please prioritize people with medical vulnerabilities and their caregiver family members for the COVID vaccine*

To: [gab@pipeline.com](mailto:gab@pipeline.com) <[gab@pipeline.com](mailto:gab@pipeline.com)>, [hoylman@nysenate.gov](mailto:hoylman@nysenate.gov) <[hoylman@nysenate.gov](mailto:hoylman@nysenate.gov)> [emails for Gale Brewer and Brad Hoylman]

*Dear Manhattan Borough President Brewer and Senator Hoylman:*

*First, let me thank you for your ongoing advocacy for vulnerable people during the pandemic. I am deeply appreciative of Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer's successful effort writing to Governor Cuomo on behalf of families who depend on home care services through Consumer Directed Personal Assistant Services (CDPAS) and the Office of People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Self Direction services, authorizing rapid vaccine delivery to home health care aides and those serving families of people with developmental disabilities across the state. This was a truly valuable accomplishment.*

*However, the Office of People with Developmental Disabilities and the Health Department have not yet approved the vaccine for our family members with serious medical conditions and/or developmental disabilities - our most vulnerable population. I have a young medically fragile adult daughter who is currently living at home with me who has the rare Jewish genetic condition Familial Dysautonomia. Without question, exposure to COVID for her would be very dangerous. Like many other citizens with disabilities, she is badly in need of the protection afforded by having a vaccination against COVID. Additionally, my husband and I are very concerned that we be able to get the vaccine as we are her caregivers every day from 4 PM to 9 AM; our daughter's care is extremely complex and not understood by most medical staff given the rarity of her condition. If we were to be unavailable to care for her, we truly don't know what we would do.*

*I would be deeply appreciative if you both could write to Governor Cuomo and encourage him to put such vulnerable citizens on the priority list, along with their caregiver parents. While I am writing for myself, I know my concerns are of considerable concern for many many families in Manhattan and across NY State.*

*Sincerely,  
Faye Ginsburg*