

October 22, 2024

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senate
478 RSOB
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Gillibrand:

Re: S.5099, The Plum Island Preservation Act

As an organizational member of the Preserve Plum Island Coalition (PPIC), Concerned Citizens of Montauk (CCOM), a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) environmental advocacy group who's mission is to preserve and protect the unique environment and ecology of Montauk, thanks you for your strong support of S. 5099—the "Plum Island Preservation Act." We greatly appreciate your championship of this important legislation and your work in helping the bill successfully pass out of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs.

As you know, if signed into law, this important legislation would permanently preserve Plum Island and commit the federal government to a process resulting in the protection of the island's collective natural, cultural, scenic, and historic resources. This legislation epitomizes your longstanding and unwavering commitment to achieving the preservation of Plum Island, and we are most grateful for your dedication and persistence in this effort. It obviously has made all the difference!

We will continue to join forces with over 120 member organizations of the PPIC in our advocacy for Plum Island preservation. We want what is in the best interest of the diverse and significant resources found on Plum Island, including access for the public to enjoy and learn from those resources, consistent with their protection. After passage of S. 5099, as stakeholders in the future of Plum Island, we will be eager to participate in the development of the required management plan to safeguard these resources.

Again, thank you for your leadership and commitment, for recognizing Plum Island's tremendous national significance and dedicating time and effort to pass legislation that will preserve the island in perpetuity and require the commencement of management planning.

Sincerely,



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CC: David Freudenthal, CCOM Chairman of the Board