



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**  
ALBANY 12224

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
GOVERNOR

**BETH GARVEY**  
SPECIAL COUNSEL AND  
SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE GOVERNOR

May 20, 2020

Carlos A. Castillo  
Consul General, Dominican Republic  
1501 Broadway Floor 4r, New York, NY 10036

Dear Carlos A. Castillo,

I write to respond to your request to conduct an in-person election for President of the Dominican Republic in New York State on July 5, 2020. Governor Cuomo supports the right of all New Yorkers to engage in the democratic process, including the approximately 250,000 citizens of the Dominican Republic who are currently residing in New York State.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Cuomo has taken a number of steps to protect the public from the risk of infection while ensuring the integrity of the electoral process in New York. The Governor has issued an Executive Order directing counties throughout New York to mail every voter an absentee ballot application in advance of the State's June 23rd primary so that voters are not required to physically appear to cast a ballot. Additionally, in conjunction with local governments and the New York State Board of Elections, the Governor is working to provide detailed guidance and personal protective equipment for poll-workers so that in-person voting sites can be safely opened for early voting and election day.

The Dominican Republic may conduct its election on July 5, 2020, provided it must meet the minimum State standards for reducing disease transmission, as well as any applicable federal standards, including those set out by the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in effect at the time of the Election.

If circumstances change, based on public health data we will certainly alert you to make any adjustments necessary for public health and safety.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Garvey".

Elizabeth Garvey  
Special Counsel and Senior Advisor

**WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE**  
PERFORMANCE ★ INTEGRITY ★ PRIDE