

Terry Gipson
PO Box 55
Rhinebeck, NY 12572

June 21, 2016

Dear Governor Cuomo,

I'm writing to respectfully request that you call the State Legislature back to Albany immediately to close the LLC Loophole and stop the flood of corporate campaign contributions into New York State politics. Big money corrupts our political system, and suppresses the voice of the people. Our State Legislators should not be allowed to vacation until they address this issue.

The influence of big corporate money in our elections is prohibiting New York from making progress on reducing the cost of living, improving the quality of public education, and protecting our drinking water. This is because large corporate interests benefit from the status quo, and they use their power to try and defeat people that don't support them.

As a former New York State Senator, I witnessed this firsthand when I refused to help the New York City Real Estate Board get tax breaks to build luxury condominiums for Wall Street billionaires. REBNY retaliated by spending millions of dollars in support of my opponent, because the laws allowed them to do so.

And let's not forget that we just witnessed the criminal convictions of the two leaders of our State Legislature. Both Republican Senate Leader Dean Skelos and Democratic Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver were empowered by millions of dollars in corporate contributions and illegal schemes to enrich themselves and their families. Even this failed to inspire our current legislative leaders to take campaign finance reform seriously.

Governor Cuomo, you have the constitutional power to call the Legislature back for a special session. You can keep them in Albany until they take the corrupting influence of big corporate money seriously and close the LLC loophole that currently allows corporations to contribute unlimited sums of money into our political system. New Yorkers overwhelmingly support these reforms, and they want it done now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Gipson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Terry Gipson
Democratic Candidate, New York State Senate
District 41, Dutchess & Putnam Counties