



The Conservative Party of New York State

Founded 1962

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2021 Legislative Program

It is an understatement to note that New York's government, at all levels, is deeply in debt and has been even prior to the devastating effects of government shutting down businesses due to COVID-19. Government is failing its citizens. As of October 20, 2020, government and its authorities are projecting \$59 billion of revenue shortfalls through 2022.

The Conservative Party, through the years, has offered fiscally sound economic policies to change New York's course of wasteful government spending. New York was once the beacon of economic success; today New York has become an entity that over-regulates small business, stifles proven energy expansion and increases taxes on its citizens forcing them to seek states that will encourage them to unleash their entrepreneurial spirit thereby ensuring a future for generations to come.

In the last 2 gubernatorial elections, voters reaffirmed the Conservative Party's position on Row C and in doing so made the statement that the Conservative Party has been a positive influence in attempting to restore fiscal sanity to New York. Despite the states shrinking population, the Conservative Party has consistently increased the number of votes on the Party's line since 2002. Voters clearly support our philosophy and want it to become law. Unfortunately, New York's spending and taxes are still ranked among the highest in the nation, despite the promises of Governor Cuomo to make New York a better place to live and do business. Legislators must end the overspending that contributes to the budget deficits and must allow New Yorkers to get back to work.

Regrettably, the state, by relying on excessive taxes, surcharges, fees, fines on corporations and thinks it can continue to spend blindly on promises of Federal Government handouts to balance an excessive budget, has made it unnecessary to cut spending. The horrific pandemic has proven how misguided New York's economic policies are. While COVID-19 has amplified the budget shortfall, the state was headed toward a fiscal crisis before the China virus arrived. New York's government must end its self-destructive path of overspending. New York cannot tax someone who no longer works or lives here. New York's government must learn from its past overspending habits that being prepared for emergencies will alleviate some of the fiscal problems we are experience from the pandemic. Keeping people from working, while causing serious fiscal problems, also present far more long-term problems that end up costing even more money the state does not have.

The Governor must propose cuts across the board and the Legislature must not add to the budget; every agency and program must have significant spending cuts and not depend only on attrition to attain the goal. Every outdated, underutilized program must be eliminated. Neither Medicaid nor School Aid can be excluded from realistic cuts. The Legislature must end its dependency on taxing New York's citizens; it must enact real change in every aspect of government and eliminate unfunded mandates. The Legislature must adopt term limits and a viable Initiative, Referendum, and Recall bill for all elected officials. New York State must stop masking the true nature of its growing debt through obtusely worded bonding that offers no insight into true costs to the taxpayers.

The department of education must root out excessive administrative levels and spending as ways to restore public trust. The years of government programs designed to alleviate economic disparity have only widened the gap; these programs must end. The free competitive market is the judicious way to achieve higher standards of living for everyone. Our Legislative Program seeks to restore a common-sense approach to a legislature that has looked for ways to benefit itself rather than the people it represents. These proposals are concise and need immediate adoption. History has proven that enactment of the following proposals will bring a quick reversal in New York's bleak fiscal outlook that has thousands of New Yorkers moving to states with lower taxes and less regulations.

TAXES AND SPENDING

In order for New York State to keep residents from moving to states with lesser taxes and more economic growth, New York must reconsider its financial structure to lower its debt, provide mandate relief, reconsider regulations that strangle businesses, end the wasteful spending on programs that are doomed to fail and cut spending across the board.

The NY State Legislative Members must adopt the following recommendations to lower/eliminate the oppressive taxes forced on the families residing in New York State:

- Requirement of a 2/3 majority vote for any tax increase
- Rejection of extending and/or increasing the personal income tax (PIT) on higher income New Yorkers.
- Opposition to the ever increasing MTA mobility taxes.
- Opposition to the New York Health Act.
- We oppose the adoption of any revenue stream, that does not include a sunset clause, designed to mitigate the COVID-19 deficit, which will become a permanent burden on taxpayers and businesses, and give Albany more money to play with when the impact of COVID recedes.
- End and repeal unfunded mandates.
- Adoption of a constitutional amendment that requires the NYS Budget be strictly limited to budget items and not programs that should stand alone for a legislative vote.
- Adoption of a constitutional amendment limiting any increase of state spending to the rate of inflation.
- We support a constitutional amendment to reform NYS Bonding. The amendment should include an end to ban back-door borrowing, require listing the total debt expected from the bonding and allow the voters of New York to have more than one bond issue on the ballot.
- Prohibit public authorities from issuing new debt except for capital improvements backed by a stable revenue stream paid directly by the project's beneficiaries - for example: bridge tolls.
- Continue to hold total state spending growth at/or (preferably) below the inflation rate.
- Further reduction in the state corporate income tax on all businesses in New York, to stimulate more investment and job creation. No adoption of a "circuit-breaker" property tax program.
- End the practice of increasing fees or "hidden" taxes. While the cap on Medicaid spending was a good beginning, **Medicaid must be reformed to decrease spending.** Among some of the reforms Medicaid should adopt is the elimination of programs that are not covered by private insurance carriers.
- Every effort must be made to eliminate Medicaid fraud and to recover the monies paid on fraudulent claims.
- Elimination of state income tax on dividend earnings.
- Local government entities, such as Fire Districts, Libraries, School Districts, should have voter approval of budgets, prior to contracts becoming effective.
- Local governments *should be required to consolidate services* and where possible, to eliminate duplication of services.
- Eliminate the New York State estate tax.
- Pension Reform. While it is understood that the New York State Constitution does not allow pension benefits to be "diminished or impaired," the current defined-benefit pension entitlement must be changed to a defined-contribution retirement savings plan when new government employees are hired. Tier VI, did not include "defined-contribution," which is necessary to curb the future costs to taxpayers.
- Continue job creation through tax reduction by elimination of the Gross Receipts Tax.
- New York State needs to address the out-of-control costs of health care for employees and retirees of public employment agencies.
- Common retirement funds must use free-market principles and not be mandated by government fiat to invest in risky "do good" ideals.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

In order to keep our streets safe and conducive to business the Conservative Party recommends:

- We reject any effort to defund law enforcement anywhere in New York State.
- The enacted Criminal Justice Reforms must be repealed and replaced with more realistic, attainable goals.
- Bail should be denied to defendants charged with commissions of felony crimes of violence. Community, victims and witness's safety should be considered in bail decisions. The ending of cash bail must be repealed and left to the discretion of Judges.
- Opposition to any efforts to change the way district attorneys prosecute crimes and oppose changing the Grand Jury system. Rejection of any effort to legalize marijuana and other drugs for recreational purposes.
- Law enforcement agencies throughout the state should be required to detain, for purposes of notifying federal authorities, any individual reasonably suspected of being in the U.S. illegally.
- We support law enforcement agencies efforts utilizing all effective law enforcement techniques, such as profiling, surveillance and stop, question and frisk that keeps citizens safe.
- Legislation that seeks to increase the level of offense when an individual or group specifically targets and/or lures members of law enforcement, firemen, first responders or active military to be physically harmed.
- DNA databanks should include anyone convicted of a felony criminal offense.
- Citizens shall have the right to protect themselves with legally purchased firearms. Local and State laws should not conflict with federal law in the licensing or permits allowing citizens in good standing to carry firearms, therefore the NY SAFE Act must be repealed.
- Repeal the expanded Red Flag Law
- We reject the biased examination of social media sites.
- Rejection of any restrictions placed on the rights of law-abiding citizens to legally acquire and possess firearms, or any other constitutionally-protected means of self-defense, such as electric stun devices.
- Legislation to end parole for all convicted felons.
- Rejection of any effort to change the state's double jeopardy protection.
- Rejection of efforts to have convicted felons serve on jury duty.
- Legislation that allows for prosecution as a felon after a third independent misdemeanor offense.
- The opioid crisis is real and deadly. Narcan is readily available to save lives and every effort must be made to help the addict, but we must also be mindful of politicians who totally blame drug manufacturers are using this crisis for political and financial gain.
- We renew our opposition to drug injection sites.
- Restoration of the Death Penalty.
- Domestic Terrorism is a real and serious concern. There must be strident enforcement of current laws to prevent and punish acts of domestic terrorism, including without limitation, crimes against individuals or religious groups regardless of motivation.

FAMILY RIGHTS:

Legislation must be adopted to protect religious institutions from being required to recognize/perform marriages that are not within their traditional definition of marriage. We do not support legislation that seeks to expand the Human Rights Law to include "transgender" as a protected class. Mandated vaccinations should be limited to those illnesses that are easily communicable and potentially life treating; all other vaccines shall only be done with parental consent. We reject any effort to detain infected individuals and their contacts in a government and/or private facility.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE:

We believe that New York's expanded abortion law should be repealed and the legislature should re-adopt the prior statute permitting therapeutic abortions only under the most clearly defined conditions hazardous to the life of the mother. Elderly, terminally ill, and patients who cannot advocate for themselves should have the full protection of the law to prevent attempts to end their lives prematurely. Terminally ill patients should be provided all palliative care to ease their pain; *efforts to have physicians assist their suicide must be rejected*. The Conservative Party staunchly believes that all human cloning must be banned and that stem-cell research specifically prohibits the use of progenitor cells and/ or pluripotent cells and must be limited to adult stem cells, amniotic fluid, and fetal cord blood research. Unborn victims of violence should be given the full protection of our

laws. Tax dollars should not be used to prevent or end a pregnancy. Efforts must be made to ease adoption laws in New York State so that traditional families can provide a loving home to unwanted or abandoned children.

EDUCATION:

The Conservative Party recognizes that a good education is vital for members of society to prosper. We believe that every parent should have the opportunity to send their children to the best schools available and we oppose any restrictions on home schooling. We oppose allowing Courts to determine New York State's system for educational financing and support. We also oppose the establishment and funding of any educational institute by any municipality that seeks to promote a culture or history that does not support the United States Constitution. We oppose any effort to include the debunked 1619 Project in school curriculums. We firmly support the merit testing of students for admission into specialized high schools. Educational tax credits should be available to parents. We believe that state government should set the minimum standards, but that local governments should have control without the mandates of common core. We support expanding the number of Charter Schools. English should be established as the official language and bilingual educational programs should be eliminated. All disruptive violent students should be removed and placed in schools that have the ability to handle their distractions. Teachers who have acted in any seriously unprofessional manner must be stripped of tenure and prevented from teaching in the future. School districts that decide to permit school personnel to have access to firearms should be provided training and support by state and local law enforcement. We support a temporary State Commission to make a list of recommended school mergers to provide more cost effective primary and secondary school education wherever the school-age children appear to be in permanent decline.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

We must stop the erratic issuance of unconstitutional dictates that has destroyed thousands of small businesses. A devastated economy will setback all New Yorkers for decades to come. We must reestablish a climate that is business friendly, and eliminate burdensome taxes and regulations that prevent society's entrepreneurial spirit from soaring. Businesses must be allowed to conduct their business in an atmosphere that lets the free-market dictate what is best for it as long as the business is not promoting substances that are illegal or promoting illegal behavior. We support the repeal of the mandated "Wicks Law" and the Scaffold Law that adds to construction costs. Companies should be allowed to hire the best-qualified person without fear of breaching hiring quotas. *The free market must determine wages, not government.* We call for the repeal of the current steps raising the minimum wage and also oppose living wage legislation. Employees must be held responsible if they contribute to their own injuries. Tort reform, including the expansion of sanctions for bringing frivolous lawsuits, is essential to encourage the free flow of business in New York State, and meaningful Workers Compensation reform is vital. We support repealing the requirement that new LLC or LLP publish notices for 6 weeks in 2 different newspapers. We support a constitutional amendment that would specifically define "eminent domain" to prohibit takings for economic development purposes and limit takings to true public purposes. Hydrofracking, with proper environmental safeguards, should be permitted in the state. The "Paid Family Leave" requirement adopted in 2017, is unreasonable and unsustainable, and should be repealed. We do not support the proposed Transportation Climate Initiative that would artificially raise the cost of gasoline and diesel fuel.

HOUSING:

The free market, not government controls, is the only way to have quality affordable housing. The recently enacted expansion of rent regulations throughout New York State will only exacerbate the housing shortages and force landlords to abandon and/or not do necessary repairs due to the inability to recoup the funds to provide the necessary repairs. During the pandemic, government has protected renters from evictions, but ignored the plight of landlords who are expected to pay undiminished taxes or face foreclosure. Government policies that interfered with the ability of real estate to generate income must not result in the socialist seizure of private property.

WELFARE:

New York State must adopt the strictest legal reforms and work requirements, give control to the local counties to set limits for the amount of payment, allow for 100% sanctions if the public assistance work rules are not adhered to, require full restitution if fraud is used to obtain benefits, and firmly establish that each recipient is in our country legally. We support the requirement of drug testing and fingerprinting all who apply for government benefits and reject the use of taxpayer money to reach out for new recipients.

PRISONS:

New York State continues to systematically release prisoners to balance their budgets and close prisons. We believe that is not in the best interest of keeping our citizens safe. Government's role is to protect its citizens from those who have harmed or continue to harm individuals. Prisoners should have to work toward reentry into society; their food, shelter and clothing cost taxpayers' money and New York State should have the ability to require prisoners to reimburse the state. Every reasonable effort must be made to ensure that people who are held in jail are given a speedy trial to determine their guilt or innocence and that discovery must include all the legally obtained information and be provided within a reasonable amount of time, (currently 20 days if in custody and 35 days when not in custody) which could ultimately allow the release of the suspected criminal on this technicality.

LABOR RELATIONS:

Union members' First Amendment right of freedom of speech and assembly should be reaffirmed and be protected against arbitrary disciplinary actions. New York State should be a right to work state. We support strengthening the Taylor Law and the repeal of the Triborough Amendment, and are strongly opposed to attempts to allow mediators to declare that officials are bargaining in bad faith. We support limiting pay raises from binding arbitration to 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower. Since the US Supreme Court struck down Agency Shop, government unions should not be able to prevent public employees from opting out. Efforts to regulate Gig workers must be rejected. Efforts to expand the public works subjected to prevailing wage laws must be rejected and/or repealed. We support legislation seeking to repeal the Farm Laborers Fair Labor Protection Act.

CONSERVATION, RECREATION AND ECOLOGY:

The unreasonable and massive taking of private lands by state and local government must end.

HIGHER EDUCATION:

The Conservative Party continues to oppose Governor Cuomo's "free" college education, while acknowledging that the cost of higher education is far too expensive. "Free" community college or universities are even more costly to taxpayers. We support initiatives that reduce the ever-increasing cost of higher education, for example on-line classes to lower the cost. We oppose any state or federal effort to eliminate student debt. Gov. Cuomo's proposal to require food pantries at all SUNY and CUNY campuses should be rejected. While we sympathize with the plight of Dreamers, the New York State "Dream Act" should be repealed as it rewards the illegal activity of their parents while legal residents of New York are disadvantaged. Any student enrolled in our higher education system must be able to prove that they are in our country legally and that any visa used to enter our Country has not expired. The Conservative Party believes that higher admission standards will restore our public institutions of higher learning to their former greatness and we continue to oppose open enrollment. Institutions of higher education must be required to adhere to the constitutional right of guaranteed free speech.

LEGISLATURE:

The Members of the Legislature must immediately rescind the authority granted Gov. Andrew Cuomo to make decisions by Executive Order immediately. The members must reassert their constitutional authority as an equal branch of government. Members must enact a permanent ban on all legislative "member" items. If a budget is not enacted by March 31, no action should be taken on any other bills, with the exception of legislation necessary for public safety. Once a budget is adopted, all other business should be concluded within 30 days. Increases in legislative pay should only be approved by members of the legislature. Budget Bills must only include items that are directly related to keeping the budget in sound fiscal health. Legislative members should not be full time and should be allowed to continue their outside careers to realize the impact of the bills they pass. No taxpayer funds should be used to pay for any public official's sexual harassment or misconduct, nor should there be any non-disclosure agreements, however, caution must be used to protect the identity of the victim. JCOPE, the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, must be disbanded and a new **independent** commission should be established to oversee both the Executive and Legislative branches of government.

ELECTIONS:

Term limits for all elected officials must be enacted, with no more than 8 years in each house and two four-year terms for statewide officials. Same day voter registration/Election Day voter registration must be rejected. Automatic Voter Registration must be repealed. We support the increased use of early in person voting but oppose universal absentee ballots. Universal absentee ballots are an open invitation to fraud due to poorly maintained state voter registration files, the lack of a central data base for returned ballots, inconsistent, sometimes nonexistent signature verification and poor BOE storage policies. Secure photo

identification, *confirming the US citizenship of the voter* – a driver’s license is no longer a valid photo identification -- should be required and presented to the poll inspectors before voting, as well as when first registering to vote. New Yorkers should not be made to finance political campaigns they do not support and therefore campaign financing must be repealed. Citizens should be allowed to have Initiative, Referendum, and Recall. Direct election of all judges, for shorter terms, should be required. Candidates for political office should not accept campaign contributions from sovereign entities not bound by, or that violate, the laws and regulations of the New York State Board of Elections. Existing federal law regarding Super PAC’s is sufficient. We support efforts that result in apolitical Boards of Elections. The Conservative Party opposes any effort to diminish the power of those enrolled in a political party by denying them the ability to control their own party. We support adoption of a Constitutional Amendment establishing a requirement that the Governor call Special elections within a certain statutory calendar. We Oppose a Constitutional Amendment that seeks to change the redistricting process including redistricting lines for congressional and state districts. We oppose any legislation that allows felons to vote.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

New York State, since the earliest days of our Nation, has been a beacon to people coming to America. Today, we welcome those who come to our state – legally. While we welcome all who come to our shores, we insist that our government services must be limited to those who are here legally. Refugees, while here legally, must not become permanent recipients of government programs. Government service providers should require proof, again a NYS drivers license is not proof, that people who receive government services are here legally. Additionally, all government forms should be printed in English only. Citizens who vote should vote in English. As we stated, we recognize the wonderful contributions immigrants have made to America, but we also recognize that immigrants have made these contributions, by *communicating* in the English language and *assimilating to American customs*. People who have entered our country and state *illegally* should not be provided drivers’ licenses and if they have obtained one, it should be revoked, nor any other government professional licenses and identification forms. New York State government should require all law enforcement agencies to hold for federal law enforcement officials any person in our state illegally and **prohibit any state or municipality from becoming a sanctuary government.**

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE IN PUBLIC LIFE:

Legislation must be adopted to protect private citizens and faith-based entities from being forced to participate in activities that violate their religious convictions. The values of our faiths and the Judeo-Christian moral code are under assault. Congress and the Legislature open each Session with a prayer. Why then, do we deny that very same privilege to tomorrow’s leaders in public school classes and functions? The Founding Fathers debated what they hoped to be the values of this new nation and chose as the very first line of the Bill of Rights: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or *prohibiting the free exercise thereof.*” They knew the importance of religion in our daily lives and specifically denied government choosing which religion should be practiced, yet emphasized that government could not stop people from practicing their religion of choice. Therefore, we urge the legitimization of the traditionally accepted role of nonsectarian religious observance in our public schools, through a proposal by the New York State Legislature, of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, making it clear that non-denominational, non-coercive prayer in public schools *shall not be prohibited*; and that individual or group religious observance or activity shall not be prohibited, infringed, or discriminated against through refusal of reasonable accommodation or by any other form of disparate treatment. We oppose imposing non-religious values on religious people and institutions. Religious values should be defended from attack by politicians, while our civil and criminal laws must apply to all citizens equally, without interpretations that suit individual religions.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH:

The Conservative Party believes that just as the Legislative Branch of government should eliminate all legislative member items, the Executive Branch must eliminate “executive” items also. The disbursement of economic development council grants and tax credits to localities creates unjust favoritism with taxpayers’ funds to businesses that are vulnerable to competing on a level playing field. We oppose efforts by the Governor and Legislature to create Commissions that possesses the authority to make state law.

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2021 Legislative Priorities

- The Criminal Justice Reforms, passed in a budget bill, must be repealed and replaced with more realistic, achievable goals.
- We reject any effort to defund law enforcement anywhere in New York State.
- Rejection of extending and/or increasing the personal income tax (PIT) on higher income New Yorkers.
- We oppose the adoption of any revenue stream, that does not include a sunset clause, designed to mitigate the COVID-19 deficit, which will become a permanent burden on taxpayers and businesses, and give Albany more money to play with when the impact of COVID recedes.
- We support adoption of a constitutional amendment that requires the NYS Budget be strictly limited to budget items and not programs (for example, the Criminal Justice Reform changes) that should stand alone for a legislative vote.
- We Oppose a Constitutional Amendment that seeks to change the redistricting process including redistricting lines for congressional and state districts
- The Legislature must immediately rescind the authority granted Gov. Cuomo during the COVID pandemic and reestablish itself as an equal branch of government.
- Any attempt to establish instant voter registration in New York State must be rejected.
- We believe that New York's expanded abortion law should be repealed and the legislature should re-adopt the prior statute permitting therapeutic abortions only under the most clearly defined conditions hazardous to the life of the mother.
- Terminally ill patients should be provided all palliative care to ease their pain; *efforts to have physicians assist their suicide must be rejected.*
- We support term limits for the Governor, Lt. Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General, and Members of the Senate and Assembly and the first passage of a Constitutional Amendment establishing Initiative and Referendum and Recall.
- We reject efforts to legalize the personal use of marijuana and safe injection sites.
- We oppose efforts by the Governor and Legislature to create Commissions that possesses the authority to make state law.
- We reject any new taxes and/or fees to reduce the COVID induced deficit.
- We support law enforcement agencies efforts utilizing all effective law enforcement techniques, such as profiling, surveillance and stop, question and frisk that keeps citizens safe.
- We support making all Emergency Medical Services an essential service.
- New York State government should require all law enforcement agencies to hold for federal law enforcement officials any person in our state illegally and **prohibit any state or municipality from becoming a sanctuary government.**
- We support the encouragement of educational choice programs through establishment of a system of educational tax credits or deductions and/or vouchers in payment to parents or school districts for expenses incurred in elementary or secondary education, and we support expanding the number of Charter Schools in New York State. We support the merit testing of students for admission into specialized high schools. We reject the inclusion of the debunked 1619 Project in school curriculums.
- School districts that decide to permit school personnel to have access to firearms should be provided training and support by state and local law enforcement.
- The Conservative Party continues to oppose Governor Cuomo's free college education, while acknowledging that the cost of higher education is far too expensive. "Free" community college or universities is even more costly to taxpayers. Therefore, all levels of higher education should be made available on-line to lower the cost.
- We believe that any attempt to amend the Human Rights Law to include "transgender" language as a special class of citizens should be rejected.

A Short History of the Conservative Party

The Conservative Party was formed in 1962 to restore a meaningful choice to the voters of New York State. At that time, the three existing political parties espoused the doctrinaire liberal philosophy of the welfare state at home and the collectivist ideology abroad. In just four short decades, the party has grown from a small band of conservative-minded men and women to a statewide organization dedicated to the traditional American values of individual freedom, individual responsibility, and individual effort.

From a humble beginning garnering 141,000 votes on ballot Row F, our principles have attracted Empire State voters in sufficient numbers to raise the Party to Row C and twice received over a million votes for our candidate in a statewide election. From the founding of the party, it has been successively chaired by Kieran O'Doherty, J. Daniel Mahoney, Serphin R. Maltese, Michael R. Long and Gerard Kassar. Through the leadership of these men and the hard work of committee members, the Conservative Party elected James L. Buckley to the U. S. Senate, William Carney to the House of Representatives, Serphin R. Maltese to the State Senate, Rosemary R. Gunning, Charles Jerabec and Angela M. Wozniak to the State Assembly. History was made in New York City with the 2001 election of then Conservative Party Executive Vice Chairman James P. Molinaro as the Borough President of Staten Island and his reelections in 2005 and 2009.

The 1994 elections were a breakthrough for the Conservative Party as we provided the margin of victory for Governor George E. Pataki with the 326,605 votes cast on our line. Attorney General Vacco narrowly defeated radical Karen Burstein by 88,340 votes. He received 305,961 votes on the Conservative Line. In 1998, 348,272 votes for Governor George E. Pataki were cast on the Conservative line, over 20,000 more than in 1994, an anomaly in political history.

In the past 57 years, the Conservative Party has played many pivotal roles in electing officials from every political division from Supreme Court Justices to Village Justices, County Executives to Village Board Members, Mayors and City Council Members to Ward Leaders, and will continue to play a pivotal role in the process of electing those who are committed to conservative values.

Our strong support of term limits was instrumental when New York City voters went to the polls two separate times and defeated proposed changes to the term limits for the offices of Mayor and the City Council previously enacted.

In 1990, conservative savant, Herb London, ran for governor on the Conservative Party line only and garnered 827,614 votes, just 1% less than the republican candidate.

In 1997, the Conservative Party led the citizens of New York in defeating the \$2.4 billion School Bond Act. Liberals outspent us 6 to 1 in trying to pass what would have been nothing more than a colossal waste of taxpayer money. And, we defeated the proposal for a Constitutional Convention; twenty years later, in 2017, we led a coalition to defeat passage of a Constitutional Convention again. In the year 2000, we were instrumental in defeating the most expensive transportation bond issues ever placed on the ballot. In November 2003, we were instrumental in defeating the "non-partisan election" ballot question in New York City and the raising of the debt limit for small city school districts. In 2005, we led the way to defeat the ill-conceived "Power Grab" by Albany's legislators.

In 2009, the Conservative Party's candidate for the 23rd, Doug Hoffman, running on the CPNYS line alone, garnered 45.98% of the vote. The race energized a grassroots response seldom seen in politics; and helped give birth to the "TEA Party" movement.

In 2010, the Conservative Party regained Row C when Carl Paladino was our gubernatorial candidate and provided the margin of victory to numerous elected officials; in 2014 and 2018 voters solidly reaffirmed our position on Row C.

In 2011, the Conservative Party provided the margin of victory in a special election to Bob Turner who took back a Congressional Seat held by Democrats for eighty years.

In 2017 we helped pass a Constitutional Amendment that requires any elected official convicted of a felony related to their duties to forfeit their pension.

In 2019 the Conservative Party vote was the margin of victory in many important races including the flipping of several County Legislatures and Towns including Hempstead the largest town in the United States. Additionally, enrolled members of the Conservative Party enjoyed victories ranging from State Supreme Court to Town Councils making 2019 a banner year.

In 2020, the Conservative Party continued to provide the margin of victory in local races.

The 2021-22 Legislature includes 21 State Senators and 44 Assembly Members with Conservative Party designation. The 117th Congress includes 7 (possibly 8 when the 22nd CD is certified) Representatives from New York State who ran with conservative designation. Statewide the Party has forged strong links to the Republicans and Democrats of compatible views and has slowed the complete leftward drift of state government. On the national level, we are affiliated with the American Conservative Union. Although we are not formally affiliated with any other national conservative organization, we are recognized as the influential New York branch of the American conservative movement and maintain a close and cordial relationship with conservative organizations and public officials in other states and Washington, D.C.

President Ronald Reagan stated; "The Conservative Party has established itself as a preeminent force in New York Politics and an important part of our political history."

President Donald J. Trump noted "It's not easy to be an unapologetic conservative in one of the most liberal states in America, but your loyalty and commitment to the cause of freedom have paid off with a growing and thriving Party."

With your help, the Conservative Party will continue its vital role in shaping the political agenda of the State and Nation.

Adopted 01/06/21