

New York Prohibitionist



Think NY Vote Dry

August 2021

Volume 4 #6

A Vision for the Future

In these trying times, the Prohibition Party of New York continues its work to advocate for positive policies and advance social reform. We offer a vision for a better future for New York. A vision for a new approach to governance focused on moral principle, public service, and advancing the public wellbeing. A vision of a state filled with healthy, prospering communities, and greater opportunity for all New Yorkers. If you are interested in helping to make a positive impact on your state and your community, consider joining the Prohibition Party of New York.

"Protecting the lives of citizens is one of the core responsibilities of any legitimate government; as is stated in the Declaration of Independence. The elected officials running our national and state governments need to get more serious about fulfilling this responsibility." Prohibition Party, 2021

A State of Transition

This month has been a significant month for the Prohibition Party of New York and for New York state as-a-whole. Mounting revelations about Andrew Cuomo's misconduct were increasingly brought to public attention. The Prohibition Party of New York had called for Andrew Cuomo to resign and advocated for him to be held accountable for his actions. As members of the state legislature were preparing to impeach him from office, the now-former governor announced his resignation from office. On August 24th, Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul became the new governor of the state.

New York state has begun to transition into a new chapter in its political history. One where New York has the potential to begin to heal from the damages it has endured over the past decade and hopefully begin to move in a better direction. In this new chapter, the Prohibition Party of New York will continue our work: to advocate for good

governance, ethical public service, and advancing policies to protect the lives and wellbeing of New Yorkers. We have already begun issuing statements encouraging Governor Hochul to help repair damages caused by the Cuomo administration. In the months going forward, we will look for ways to increase our organizational and advocacy efforts.

Statement on the Swearing in of Governor Hochul.

Kathy Hochul has been sworn in as the new Governor of New York State. We hope that Governor Hochul will use her time as governor to work to help repair the damage done to our state under former governor Andrew Cuomo and help with fostering a healthier political environment. As with any other public official in our state, we will watch what she will do, give credit where credit is due, give criticism where criticism is due, and encourage her to take actions that will benefit the people of this state.

New York Prohibition Party

August 24, 2021

Call on Governor Hochul to Stand Against Anti-Democratic Ballot Access Laws

Governor Hochul has the opportunity to use her position to help remedy some of the harms done to the state under the governorship of Andrew Cuomo. She has already made some steps toward this by getting rid of figures that were involved with covering up the governor's acts of sexual harassment. One of the most egregious harms that former Governor Cuomo had caused was using his power to push for anti-democratic changes to the state's ballot access laws, which worked to make it vastly harder for minor party and independent candidates to get on the ballot for offices in the state, created an almost impossible standard for parties to gain and retain statewide ballot access recognition, and resulted in four political



parties being stripped of their statewide ballot access in New York. We encourage Governor Hochul to work to restore the state's old ballot access laws and restore statewide ballot access recognition to every party that had their status unjustly stripped from them.

New York Prohibition Party

Statement on the Resignation of Governor Andrew Cuomo

August 10th, 2021

On August 10th, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced his resignation, effective in 14 days. His resignation comes at a time where increasing public awareness of acts of corruption and abuse committed by the governor had brought the state legislature to the point where they were preparing to impeach him for his actions. Throughout his time as governor, Andrew Cuomo has misused his position to benefit himself and his political backers, while he took actions that were detrimental to the health, safety, and wellbeing of New Yorkers, allowed corruption to fester in the state government, worked to undermine the state's democratic system, and used his power to prey on others. Governor Cuomo failed his ethical duties as a public servant. It was for these reasons that our party called for the governor to resign or be impeached. Governor Cuomo, after finally recognizing that he could not escape accountability for his actions, has finally decided to resign from the office of governor.

While it was right for Governor Cuomo to resign, it is unfortunate that we had to get to this point. It is unfortunate that the governor abused his power the way he did. It is unfortunate how his actions have negatively impacted the people of New York.

Even though Governor Cuomo has resigned, this is not the end of this matter. Andrew Cuomo still faces investigation from various law enforcement agencies regarding his conduct in office. These officials should do their due diligence in their investigations going forward and work to hold Andrew Cuomo accountable for his actions.

The damage that Governor Cuomo has inflicted on New York will continue to exist after he has left office, and we will need to work to repair this damage. Andrew Cuomo and his co-conspirators in the state legislature worked to favor the alcohol industry (weakening state restrictions on alcohol sales and using state agencies to promote the growth of the alcohol industry) at the expense of the health, safety, wellbeing, and lives of New Yorkers. They made the mistake of legalizing another intoxicating drug, enriching greedy companies at the expense of the public. State economic development programs still face issues of corruption, mismanagement, and lack of transparency. The issue of how the Cuomo administration handled various aspects of their response to the coronavirus outbreak (such as its handling of nursing homes) are still being investigated and its results could inform how our state may approach dealing with the coronavirus and other potential pandemics in the future. Our society still faces the problem of people in positions of power engaging in sexual harassment. These and other issues will need to be addressed as our state moves forward.

Our state should work to address and remedy the damages which have been inflicted on our state over the past decade. We should work to end state support for the alcohol industry (and other businesses that traffic in poisoning consumers), restrengthen state restrictions on alcohol sales, and expand education, prevention, cessation, and addiction treatment programs. We should work to strengthen state ethics laws, root out corruption in state offices and programs, improve transparency, and

reform economic development programs. We should repeal the anti-democratic changes to state ballot access laws that were made last year, restore the statewide ballot access of every party that had their statewide ballot access unjustly stripped from them, and either restore the old ballot access standards or establish even less restrictive standards. We should work to improve our state's ability to respond to the coronavirus. We should work to address the issue of sexual harassment and hold any other officials who have engaged in sexual harassment accountable for their actions. We should work to confront the toxicity and disfunction in our present political environment, and work to foster a new political environment that is more centered on ethical public service and advancing the public welfare.

Once, Governor Cuomo has left office, Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul will become the new governor and serve for the remainder of the term. The next gubernatorial election will take place in 2022. We hope that soon-to-be Governor Hochul will use her time as governor to work to help repair the damage done to our state and help with fostering a healthier political environment. As with any other public official in our state, we will watch what she will do, give credit where credit is due, give criticism where criticism is due, and encourage her to take actions that will benefit the people of this state.

State Chairman Jonathan Makeley

Prohibition Party of New York



More Communities Move to Opt-Out of Marijuana Sales

More communities in New York are moving towards establishing local bans on marijuana sales. Earlier this year, the state legislature made the misguided decision to legalize the sale of recreational marijuana (to the detriment of public health and community welfare). Though villages, towns, and cities can have a window in which they can opt-out. Local communities have until the end of the year to vote to establish restrictions on the licensing of marijuana sales in their communities or to ban the licensing of marijuana shops altogether. In previous issues, we have reported how various towns, villages, and cities have moved towards establishing local restrictions or bans on marijuana sales in their communities. In this past month, even more communities have started to take action.

Here is an overview of the communities that have taken action since our last report. Communities that have voted to ban local marijuana sales include the town of Gerry, the village of Lakewood, the village of Bemus Point, the town of Ellicott, the town of Carroll, the town of Busti, the town of Clymer, the town of Islip, the town of Cortlandville, the town of Eastchester, the town of Yorktown, the village of Flower Hill, the town of Niagara, the town of Cincinnatus, and the village of Nissequoque. The village of Homer voted to ban consumption sites, but not dispensaries. Other communities have moved to have a local vote on whether to opt-out. These include the town of Geddes, the town of Camillus, the village of Camillus, the village of Minoa, the town of Homer, the village of McGraw, and the village of Amityville. Numerous other communities are considering the idea of opting out and have been holding public hearings and meetings to discuss the matter. This includes the town of Mamaroneck, the village of Marathon, the village of Brightwaters, the village of Patchogue, the city of Rye, the town of Scarsdale, the village of Athens, the village of Lindenhurst, the village of Sylvan Beach, the village of Fredonia, the town of Ossining, and the village of Ossining. There seems to be a trend in favor of opting out of marijuana sales in parts of the state; notably, Chautauqua County,

Westchester County, various communities in the Hudson Valley, and various communities in Long Island.

Hopefully, this trend will continue to gain momentum and many more communities will vote to opt-out of marijuana sales while they have the chance to. And hopefully, members of the state legislature will come to realize their mistake and move to establish a new ban against the commercial sale of marijuana.

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"I do not believe in legalizing a wrong. If it is wrong to sell intoxicating liquors as a beverage, then I say refrain from selling it at all" Silas W. Mason

Update on the Battle for Ballot Access: Green and Libertarian Parties File Brief Seeking Restoration of Party Status

Here is the latest update on the battle over ballot access in New York. As we have previously reported, last year, the state legislature passed a set of anti-democratic changes to the state's ballot access laws. These changes made it vastly harder for minor party and independent candidates to get on the ballot for offices in the state, created an almost impossible standard for parties to gain and retain statewide ballot access recognition, and resulted in four political parties being stripped of their statewide ballot access in New York. Several parties have made lawsuits arguing that these changes to ballot access laws are unconstitutional and seeking to have them revoked. The legal process for these suits has been

moving forward over time. More recently, the Green Party and Libertarian Party have filed a brief requesting that the second circuit court grant them injunctive relief and restore their status as recognized parties with statewide ballot access.

Source: <https://ballot-access.org/2021/08/25/new-york-libertarian-and-green-parties-file-brief-in-second-circuit-seeking-reinstatement-as-qualified-parties/>

Byron Brown Challenges Independent Petition Deadline

Mayor Byron Brown has moved to challenge the state's deadline for independent candidates and candidates of parties without statewide ballot access to file petitions to get on the ballot. Mayor Brown is currently the incumbent Mayor of Buffalo, New York. In June, he lost the Democratic primary for mayor to challenger India Walton. Shortly thereafter, Brown announced that he would run as a write-in candidate for mayor.

In previous years, Byron Brown would have been able to file an independent nominating petition to get his name on the ballot. But in 2019, the state legislature made the ill-conceived decision to change the deadline for filing independent nominating petitions from August to May. This marked a significant departure from the state's traditional ballot access process. Since 1890, the deadline for independent nominating petitions has always been in August, September, or October, and has tended to be around or after the party primaries. This change required prospective independent candidates to work on their petitions months earlier than they traditionally have had to, and by setting the deadline before the primary, prevented people from entering races in response to how party primaries turned out. In the case of the Buffalo Mayor election, it has created a situation where only one candidate will be listed on the ballot, unless the deadline was overturned.

In August, Byron Brown announced that he was going to file an independent nominating petition in spite of passing the May deadline and would challenge the legal validity of the deadline. On August 17th, Byron Brown filed an independent nominating petition with 3,000 signatures. It was filed before what would have been the deadline under pre-2019 petition rules

and contained 4 times the required number of signatures. He has sought to appeal to the Erie County Board of Elections. The Erie County Board of Elections met on August 27th to consider his appeal. The Board rejected his petition. Bryon Brown has indicated that he intends to file a lawsuit challenging the May deadline as unconstitutional and arguing for the old August deadline to be reinstated.

If Byron's Brown challenge to the deadline makes it to court, there is a chance that the court could potentially overrule the May deadline for independent nominating petitions and reinstate the August deadline. As ballot access expert Richard Winger has pointed out, there are multiple previous cases in which courts have ruled that a state cannot set the deadline for independent petitions substantially earlier than the day for party primaries. If this challenge ends up being successful in getting the courts to overturn the May deadline, it could end up benefiting minor party and independent candidates throughout the state, who could then have a more reasonable timetable for petitioning to get on the ballot.

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"The trend of sentiment of organized labor is toward prohibition... We are urged not to vote men out of employment in a business which is destructive to society. I would vote these men out of that employment and into something which is valuable to themselves and their fellow men." Richard Jones, Minnesota State Senator, 1916, in a speech to a labor group arguing that working men should support prohibition.



**BE RELENTLESS AND SPEAK
OUT LET EVERYONE KNOW
ALL ALCOHOL IS A CARCINOGEN
AND CAUSES OVER 12 CANCERS**



Alcohol Use Responsible for Over 4% of Cancer Cases Worldwide

New research has provided further insight into the role that alcohol plays in causing cancer. A recent study published in *The Lancet* studied the presence of alcohol-induced cases of cancer throughout the world. The researchers found that alcohol was the cause of 4.1% of the total number of cancer cases that occurred in 2020. That would amount to over 740,000 cases of cancer worldwide. The study found that any level of alcohol consumption (including light and moderate alcohol use) increased the risk of developing cancer, with the risk tending to increase the higher the rate of alcohol consumption was. The study found that those they categorized as moderate drinkers (those who averaged less than 20 g of alcohol per day) made up over 100,000 of those cases.

The report stated that their findings “highlight the need for effective policy and interventions to increase awareness of cancer risks associated with alcohol use and decrease overall alcohol consumption to prevent the burden of alcohol-attributable cancers.”

The study found that alcohol-related cancer rates were lowest in countries where strong policies against alcohol have led to low rates of alcohol use. Alcohol-induced cancer rates were highest in countries that have alcohol-friendly cultures and high rates of alcohol use, and that rates of alcohol-induced cancers have been rising in countries where alcohol use has been rising due to pro-alcohol economic policies.

In addition, the study stated that they considered their numbers to be conservative estimates. That there was likely an underreporting of alcohol-induced cancers in various areas and that the percentage of alcohol-induced cancers may actually be higher than 4.1%.

Source: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanonc/article/PIIS1473-2045\(21\)00279-5/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanonc/article/PIIS1473-2045(21)00279-5/fulltext)

New York Prohibition Party History

William Sulzer's Speech Before the 1916 Prohibition Party National Convention in Pittsburgh

"When they ask you why I am for prohibition, you tell them because I have the courage of my convictions; because I am against intemperance; because I do not straddle a fundamental principle; because I will not be a hypocrite; because I love my fellow man; because I believe the time has come for the Government to get out of the liquor business; because I want no man to enslave himself, to shackle his friends, to widow his wife, and to bring sorrow to the homes of his fellow man; because I want no friend of mine to make his children dotards, and the children of his associates tear-stained orphans; because I am opposed to any man picking his own pocket and doubling his taxes; because I know from experience that a dollar saved is a dollar made; and, finally, because I want to do my share, in my day and generation, to lessen the woes and the wants of humanity; to end the crimes and the criminals of society; and to decrease the poorhouses and the penitentiaries of the country."

"When they ask you why I am for prohibition you tell them that I am for prohibition because I want our men and women to come out of the swales of drunkenness up to the heights of soberness and get the perspective of the promised land; because I know from facts that those who earn their wage in the sweat of their face and spend it for strong drink are fooling themselves and robbing their families; because I know from statistics, medical and physiological, that the use of alcoholic drinks is death to brain and brawn, and fetters to hope and ambition; because I know from an economic standpoint, to say nothing about its moral and its physical aspects, that the prohibition of the manufacture and the sale of alcoholic liquors, for beverage purposes, will be one of the greatest boons that ever blessed humanity—a tremendous factor for good to every man, woman, and child on earth—a harbinger to all mankind in the struggle for success; and one of the most potent agencies in the world to increase the material wealth of America in the onward and upward march of civilization."

"When they ask you why I am for prohibition you tell them because I want to make the hearthside happy; because I want to make mankind free; because I want to make the State sober; and because I know

the home cannot be happy while the people are rioting in alcoholic drunkenness."

"Tell them that I say no State, and no country, can long endure half wet and half dry, half drunk and half sober, and that all friends of good government should be with us in the fight to make the State sober, and to banish forever the saloons from our country."

"Tell them that we boast that we are the greatest and richest country in the world; that we have a population of more than 100,000,000 people; that its estimated wealth is more than \$200,000,000,000; that its annual revenue from the liquor traffic is about \$200,000,000; that the people spend every year for alcoholic liquors more than \$2,000,-000,000 — just about ten times as much as the Government derives from the revenue, a sum of money that staggers the finite mind; that most of the money comes from the poor, and if it were deposited in savings banks to the credit of the toilers we would have a Government without a pauper, and the richest people per capita since the dawn of time in any land or in any clime."

"Tell them that you know, and I know, that for every dollar the Government gets from its association with the liquor business it costs the taxpayers at least \$20 to support courts and juries, hospitals and asylums, paupers and prisoners, poorhouses and penitentiaries. Tell them that the use of alcoholic stimulants is blighting the hope of our womanhood, debauching the flower of our manhood — morally, mentally, and physically — and devastating, degenerating, and decimating the human race."

"Tell them that if I were asked to sum up in a single word the cause on earth of more than seven-tenths of all the woes and all the wants; of all the fears and all the tears; of all the trials and all the troubles; of all the ghouls and all the ghosts; of all the crimes and all the criminals; of all the groans of helpless men, and all the griefs of weeping women, and all the heart pangs of sad-faced children, I should sum it all up in that short word— R-U-M— RUM— which menaces the progress of the race, and challenges the advance of civilization."

Source: <https://archive.org/details/livespeechesofwi01sulz/page/n53/mode/2up>

"The worker must work for the glory of his handiwork, not simply for pay; the thinker must think for truth, not for fame." W.E.B. DuBois

"Either America will destroy ignorance or ignorance will destroy the United States." W.E.B. DuBois