



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Malcolm Smith

Senate Elections Committee Holds Albany Hearing On Campaign Finance Reform

MALCOLM A. SMITH June 2, 2009

| ISSUE: **ELECTIONS**

| COMMITTEE: **ELECTIONS**

WHEN: Wednesday, June 3rd, 10 AM – 1 PM

WHERE: Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room B, Albany, New York, 12247

Tomorrow, the Senate Elections Committee will hold its second public hearing to address campaign finance reform and examine proposals to implement a system of public financing. Following years of inaction by the former Majority to consider and solicit proposals that would clean up our elections, these hearings mark the first time in decades that real campaign finance reform is being discussed openly and honestly in the State Senate.

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli is scheduled to testify, as well as representatives from numerous good government groups such as NYPIRG, Brennan Center for Justice, Common Cause New York, Citizen Action, League of Women Voters, Citizens Union and others.

This is the third set in a series of five hearings dedicated to increasing awareness about the necessity of a sound, effective and accessible voting process, – for those who cannot go to the polls, and for those who do go – through the moment a ballot is cast. Future hearing topics

include: Board of Elections oversight; additional election reform laws; and oversight of the November elections.

This dialogue between lawmakers and the public is part of the Senate's commitment to beginning a robust committee process, developing sound public policy through open dialogue and creating transparency in the legislative process.

Questions about these hearings may be directed to Bernadette Oliver at (518) 455-2310. (oliver@senate.state.ny.us)