



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Ruben Diaz

That Blue Sky, that is not Blue and is not a Sky

RUBEN DIAZ June 3, 2014

What You Should Know

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That Blue Sky, that is not Blue and is not a Sky

You should know that with the endorsement of the Working Families Party to the re-election efforts of New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo, the hopes and aspirations of our Democratic State Senate Conference of becoming the majority and ultimately take control of the Senate have gone all the way up to the sky.

You should also know that back in my college days at Lehman College in the Bronx, I used to have a philosophy teacher that used to tell us “Oh my dear children, that blue sky that is not blue and it is not a sky.”

Now, with the endorsement of the Working Families Party, people are saying that now the Governor will put pressure on Senator Jeff Klein and the other four run away Democratic members of the Independent Democratic Conference (IDC) to break their alliance with the Republicans and to come back to join the Democratic Conference and in order to be able to take control of the Senate.

It is well published in every newspaper that there were some negotiations between Governor Cuomo and the Working Families Party in order for the Governor to receive their endorsement. They came to an agreement that the Governor will support their liberal agenda, issues and will help the Democrats to take back the Senate. (I remember back in 2009 when the Four Amigos were in negotiations with people to decide who would take control of the Senate. They called the Four Amigos outlaws, thieves, crooks, blackmailers, opportunists, and many other things.) I remember Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, then a State Senator, demanding an investigation into the requests made by the Four Amigos. ¿Que pasa ahora, Mr. Attorney General?

No one has asked me, but I will put my two cents into the possibilities of Senator Jeff Klein coming back to join the Democrats.

Right now, Senator Klein is facing a tough Democratic Primary by ex-State Attorney General Oliver Koppell and the same goes for Senator Tony Avella, who is equally facing a challenge by ex-City Comptroller John Liu. There are no benefits for Jeff Klein and his Conference if their Democratic Primary challengers, Oliver Koppell and John Liu continue in the run. They must drop out of the race! But it will be illegal to negotiate such a thing. Hmmm!

If Jeff Klein and Tony Avella have to go through a bruising Democratic Primary and win, I assure you that there is no way in heaven for them to come back. They have proven to be unbeatable and will have nothing to gain by coming back.

You should know that my Senate Democratic Conference, for the past four years, has been played out, taken for granted and lied to by people in authority. The effort, cooperation and outstanding spirit of unity shown and offered to the Governor by Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins and the Leaders of the Regular Senate Democratic Conference have been out of this world but they not been appreciated or rewarded for it in the past, and I am afraid that now one more time people may be playing them out and taking advantage of their spirit or cooperation and understanding.

You should know that this is a business full of hypocrisy and imaginary friends. People do all kinds of things to save face. In this occasion, with this agreement, the Working Families Party has saved face and Governor Andrew Cuomo has saved face, but in the process there are and there will be collateral damages because that blue sky is not blue and is not a sky.

This is Senator Rev. Rubén Díaz and this is what you should know.