



June 2, 2015

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

As the legislative session comes to a close, we write regarding the urgent need to close the “LLC loophole,” which allows unlimited, anonymous dollars to flood our political system. We agree with leading good government groups and newspapers across the state that it is critical to close the LLC loophole before this year’s session ends.

In that context, we were disappointed to hear your comments regarding the loophole on the Capitol Pressroom radio show yesterday. You said, “Did I wish we could close the LLC loophole? Yes. But I couldn’t get it done because they don’t want to pass it.” As you said, you advocated for closure of the LLC loophole earlier this session, and said you would continue to do so after passage of an ethics package during the budget process. As recently as April 27, your spokesperson said, “The Governor supports and will continue to fight for closing the LLC loophole.” However, yesterday’s statement suggests that this effort is no longer active. Along with other public comments and news reports, it seems clear that closing the LLC loophole is not among the items on your end-of-session agenda.

This is the year to undo this “breeding ground for corruption,” as the *Syracuse Post-Standard* has described it. The Assembly has passed this bill (A.6975-B/Kavanagh) by a vote of 129-11, with the support of three quarters of the house’s Republicans. Senator Squadron and the Senate Democratic Conference have used every procedural tool available to force a vote in the Senate, attempts that have been undermined at every turn.

We cannot allow Senate intransigence to be an excuse for inaction. As you are aware, scandal after scandal has shaken New Yorkers’ faith in state government. For elected officials to regain the public’s trust, we must take meaningful steps to address the root causes of corruption in Albany. One of the clearest, most concrete steps is closing the LLC loophole.

Those who support closing the LLC loophole believe that its closure must be a priority this year. That is why we urge you to push to close the loophole this session, and to put Senate passage of S.60-A (Squadron) on your end-of-session agenda. We hope to work with you on this in the coming two weeks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Squadron".

Daniel Squadron  
New York State Senator  
26<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Kavanagh".

Brian Kavanagh  
New York State Assemblymember  
74<sup>th</sup> District