



January 6, 2016

Dear Member of the Legislature,

The jury verdicts finding two former legislative leaders guilty of using their office for personal gain have underscored the urgent need for significant reform to our state's ethics laws. More than ever, New York needs good elected officials, like yourself, to step forward, and separate themselves from the tarnished legacy of their former legislative leaders. Our groups have joined together to call on our elected representatives and leaders to continue the job of reforming our laws governing public ethics. We urge you to work with your colleagues to embrace real solutions by enacting legislation that will bring about largescale change instead of incremental reform.

We ask all of our elected legislative representatives and the Governor to sign the following Clean Conscience Pledge:

Given the need to further strengthen our state's ethics laws and to create better public trust in New York State government, I, as a New York state legislator, pledge to support, vote for, and work zealously to sign into law legislation that:

- limits outside income for legislators so we can focus on constituent needs,
- limits the ability of special interests to contribute unlimited amounts of money to all candidates for state office by closing the LLC loophole, and
- identifies the purpose for, and recipients of, all state funds allocated to be spent at the discretion of legislators and the governor to increase transparency and eliminate conflicts of interest.

On the newly constructed [EthicsPledgeNY.org](http://EthicsPledgeNY.org) website, we will identify for the public which legislators have signed the pledge and those who have not. We urge you to sign and return the enclosed pledge to Common Cause/NY (address and fax indicated below) or indicate that you have signed it by email to [NYOffice@commoncause.org](mailto:NYOffice@commoncause.org) as soon as possible, so that we may list you as willing to take serious steps to show the public that ending corruption is a priority.

Dick Dadey  
Citizens Union

Susan Lerner  
Common Cause/NY

Blair Horner  
NYPIRG

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ House: \_\_\_\_\_