

# 34.

That's how many Albany politicians have been charged with crimes, indicted, or left office due to violations of the public's trust since 2002.

# Over \$1 million.

That's the amount taxpayers are paying in pensions to politicians convicted of felonies since 2010!

## Pension Forfeiture A Common Sense Reform

The above statistics are staggering and taxpayers are left on the hook for the nefarious dealings of corrupt politicians. For our protection, I am sponsoring A.4643-A, which calls for the automatic forfeiture of any politician's taxpayer-funded pension if they are convicted of a felony. While this is only a start, it is outrageous that those convicted of violating the public's trust are allowed to keep this benefit. We must remedy this loophole in the state constitution.

For questions on this or any state matter,  
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## Assemblyman Will Barclay's Ethics Plan

- Good Government Proposals;
- Pension Forfeiture for corrupt politicians;
- The Public Officers Accountability Act (A.4617); and
- Term limits for legislative leaders.



**97 percent** of  
New Yorkers say Corruption  
is a Serious Problem.

Tackling ethics reform  
**requires action!**

Read about Will Barclay's  
**plan to clean  
up Albany.**



# ASSEMBLYMAN WILL BARCLAY

## Changing the Culture in Albany: Good Government Proposals

The once seemingly untouchable Speaker Sheldon Silver was convicted on seven counts of corruption late last year. For more than 20 years, he dominated and controlled the Assembly so that his power was not structurally limited. One of the infamous “three-men-in-a-room,” he conducted legislative business in secrecy and manipulated the political system by directing taxpayer dollars in a \$4 million kickback scheme.

Some common sense reforms will go a long way to ending Albany’s culture of corruption.

- **8-year term limit** for legislative leaders and committee chairs;
- **Require Public Hearings** on legislation;
- **Enact the Truth in Spending Act** requiring full disclosure of all funds not itemized in the NYS Budget;
- **Create an Independent Ethics Committee** not directly controlled by the Speaker; and
- **Remove the power** of the Speaker to unilaterally stop bills from reaching the floor.

Some recent legislative changes that I have pushed for have already been adopted this year:

- **Require committee votes to be posted electronically within 24 hours of the vote;**
- **Require audio and/or video broadcasts of committee meetings to be made available; and**
- **Require all procedural votes (amendments, motions to discharge, etc.) to be posted.**

## The Public Officers Accountability Act (A.4617)

- **Require the return of campaign funds to donors or charity upon felony convictions;**
- **Create a new crime for failure to report corruption;**
- **Limit the use of campaign funds to campaign activities and prohibit use of those funds for criminal defense fees;**
- **Member item reform; and**
- **Replace the Joint Commission on Public Ethics.**



## The Truth About Campaign Finance “Reform”

The recent corruption cases of former Assembly Speaker and Senate Majority Leader once again point to the need for real reform. Unfortunately, the ideas being vetted, like public financing of campaigns and creating a full-time legislature, do not address Albany’s culture of corruption. These changes will not prevent member item abuse, sexual harassment or bribery. They will not make more ethical legislators. Rather, these proposals will cost the public millions of dollars.

Taxpayer money shouldn’t be used to support candidates running for election. Under this proposal, your money could be used to support a candidate with whom you may fundamentally disagree. Why should you be forced to financially support a candidate that you actively oppose? You wouldn’t vote for that person, but under this system, you will help finance their campaign.

We should not model our campaigns on a New York City failed system because it remains a hotbed of political corruption.

**The best  
way to  
clean up  
corruption?**

**Enact the  
real ethics  
reforms  
detailed  
here.**