

**NEWS release NEWS release**

**BUFFALO TEACHERS FEDERATION**

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT: 271 Porter • Buffalo, New York 14201 • (716) 881-5400**

For Immediate Release

August 3, 2009

**MAJOR UNIONS URGE CUOMO RUN**

Eleven leaders of the state's second largest city's unions, representing thousands of members, have urged Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo to run for Governor of New York State.

Enclosure: letter

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July 29, 2009

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Office of the Attorney General  
120 Broadway  
New York, NY 10271

Dear Attorney General Cuomo:

The actions of Governor Paterson over the last several months have caused us to have serious concerns relating to New York State's direction and the negative impact of those decisions on the people of our state.

We will not go into a litany of these actions, as they are well known to most citizens of New York State.

While he may well be a good and caring person, at this juncture, we need more.

Our state is not at a crossroads but, in our opinion, has taken the wrong road.

The latest reported attempt by his office to trade not vetoing Buffalo Control Board legislation (a local bill) supported by Mayor Brown of Buffalo, the Buffalo Common Council, the Western New York Delegation and the Legislature, in exchange for having Police and Firefighters statewide agree to devastating pension reductions, (not small changes, rather ones that would decimate the pensions of those who risk their lives for us) is but one example.

We need a leader who will bring people together to find a common ground, not listen to the select few insiders.

While we, at this time, cannot guarantee your endorsement by our respective organizations, due to the democratic processes for our endorsements, we, the undersigned urge you to run for Governor of New York State.

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Now, more than anytime in our recent past, New York State needs a leader with a vision of where our State can go, the ability to bring the people of differing views together to find a common ground and one with the proven ability to do what is best for our citizens.

While we understand your constraints at this time, we want you to know that there are many like us who look forward to your being elected Governor of New York State

Respectfully,

Crystal Barton, President  
**Buffalo Council of Supervisors and  
Administrators**

Robert J. McLennan, President  
**Branch 3 NALC Buffalo/WNY**

Daniel Cunningham, President  
**Buffalo Professional Firefighters Association**

Robert Meegan, President  
**Buffalo Police Benevolent  
Association**

Kevin Fitzgerald, President Local 2651  
**Buffalo Building Trade Inspectors Association**

Philip Rumore, President  
**Buffalo Teachers Federation**

Michael H. Hoffert, President  
**Buffalo AFL-CIO Labor Council**

William Travis, President  
**AFSCME Local 264**

Richard Lipsitz, Political Action Coordinator  
**Teamsters Joint Local 46**

James M. Wagner, President  
**CWA Local 1122**

Ellis Woods, President  
**Buffalo Educational Support Team**

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