

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATORS LORIGO, GREENE, TODARO, AND MILLS**

**Re: Calling for an independent investigation into the multiple claims of sexual harassment levied against Governor Andrew Cuomo**

**WHEREAS**, two former aides to Governor Andrew Cuomo have come forward and accused him of intimidation and sexual harassment. Their accusations reference several instances where, if true, the Governor’s actions would be considered at least a violation of public ethics laws; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the position of our nation’s president that “when a person comes forward they deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. Their voice should be heard, not silenced;” and

**WHEREAS**, the standard process for investigating a claim like this, investigation by an organization like JCOPE (the Joint Commission on Public Ethics), is ineffective and biased towards those in a position of power. In particular, JCOPE is a board comprised of direct appointments from the Governor himself; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Liz Krueger has echoed the words of President Biden stating that “All credible allegations of sexual harassment must be taken seriously and given a thorough, transparent, and independent investigation.” The Senator also cautioned against the use of JCOPE as the primary vehicle through which to conduct an investigation of the Governor; and

**WHEREAS**, leadership and members in both the State Senate and State Assembly have asked for a full independent investigation of all accusations against Governor Cuomo; and

**WHEREAS**, Sunday evening Governor Cuomo acknowledged the accusations stating “At work sometimes I think I am being playful and make jokes that I think are funny. I do, on occasion, tease people in what I think is a good natured way. I have teased people about their personal lives, their relationships, and about getting married or not getting married. I mean no offense and only attempt to add some levity and banter to what is a serious business; and

**WHEREAS**, whether the Governor meant offense or not, the alleged victims viewed his comments and actions as harassment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body hereby recognizes that every victim of sexual harassment deserves to have their claim fully investigated and reviewed, regardless of who they are claiming perpetrated the harassment; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this honorable body hereby calls for a non-partisan investigation with subpoena power by the New York State Attorney General Letitia James into the allegations against Governor Cuomo; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the disposition of the present accusation and any other accusation that may arise during the course of the investigation be presented publically; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the New York State Office of the Attorney General and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: None