



August 22, 2016

Governor Andrew Cuomo  
Executive Chamber  
State Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

**Re: Please veto A.10742/S.8160. Parts F and G are excessively vague, broad and this section would impose an unwarranted and onerous burden on NY charities.**

Dear Governor Cuomo,

Reinvent Albany urges you to veto A.10742/S.8160, a bill that restricts Independent Expenditures and imposes broad new reporting requirements on 501(c)(4) and 501(c)(3) charitable organizations.

Reinvent Albany strongly supports pragmatic efforts to increase government transparency and reduce the role of money in politics and in government decision-making. However, we agree with other government watchdog groups that Parts F and G of this bill are ill-conceived, seek to address a problem that has not been shown to exist, and do far more harm than good.

Disturbingly, Parts F and G of the bill were drafted and rushed through the legislature at the very end of the legislative session without public hearings or robust consultation with charity groups. New York's charitable organizations are already subject to comprehensive and complex federal, state, and local regulations, and their lobbying activity is strictly limited and must be carefully recorded.

We agree with other major charitable organizations that the language in Parts F and G, which increases the reporting requirements of charitable organizations engaged in various lobbying and communications with the public, is extremely vague and broad, and would impose an unwarranted and onerous reporting burden on many charities.

Accordingly, we ask you to veto this bill and instead convene a working group of charitable organizations, legislators, and regulators—including JCOPE and the Attorney General's Charities Bureau—to review the concerns that inspired this bill and thoughtfully craft whatever new regulations and legislation is called for.

Thank you,

John Kaehny  
Executive Director