



TOM CILMI
Suffolk County Legislator
10th District

For Immediate Release

Date: January 12, 2016

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Cilmi calls Croci pension bill a positive step

Last year on the heels of the federal corruption convictions of former Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and former Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, Suffolk County Legislator Tom Cilmi began an online petition campaign calling on state representatives to begin the process of changing the New York State Constitution to prevent public servants convicted of felonies from collecting pensions. The petition, started through Change.org, has received hundreds of signatures.

A bill sponsored late last year by freshman New York State Senator Tom Croci would do just that. Cilmi called it a positive step in the right direction and credited Croci for his quick action.

“I applaud Senator Tom Croci for taking this positive step towards meaningful change. This culture of corruption must end and his willingness to put his name on this piece of legislation is to be commended,” said Cilmi.

If approved by the State Legislature and subsequently by voters, the measure would result in the forfeiture of pensions by state and local public officials convicted of a felony if the crime is a “breach of public trust.”

“Public officials who commit felonies involving corruption while in office violate a profound trust placed in them by those they are sworn to serve,” said Legislator Cilmi. “In my eyes and in the view of the vast majority of people I represent, they should no longer be entitled to public funds. To continue to pay their pensions is an insult to the taxpayers.”