



The League of Women Voters of New York State
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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS *of New York State*

June 12, 2015

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

The New York State Constitution requires a public referendum every 20 years to put before the voters the question of whether or not to hold a convention to revise the State constitution. On November 7, 2017 New Yorkers will be asked that question once again.

In anticipation of the last constitutional convention referendum in 1997, the late Governor Mario Cuomo created the Temporary New York State commission on Constitutional Revision, chaired by Peter C. Goldmark, Jr., (the "Goldmark Commission") to evaluate the processes for holding a State constitutional convention as well as to develop an agenda of public policy issues that might be considered by a convention. The Goldmark Commission issued a final report in February of 1995, two years and nine months before the question was to come before the voters. We are already well past that point in time with respect to the upcoming 2017 vote.

The League of Women Voters of New York State asks that you immediately appoint a Commission, representing New Yorkers from across the state and from all backgrounds, and task it with the responsibility to prepare and educate the state Legislature and voters for the November 7, 2017 vote with respect to both process and agenda. The League believes that education and involvement of the public must be an integral part of each phase of the constitutional convention process. In particular, the League is concerned that the Legislature and voters be aware of the need for an open and fair process by which Convention delegates would be selected if a Convention were to be called.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dare Thompson".

Dare Thompson
President

