



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

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BRUNO AND SILVER ANNOUNCE JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON ROCKEFELLER DRUG LAW REFORM

Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver today announced the formation of a joint conference committee to resolve legislative differences on Rockefeller Drug Law reform measures.

Senate appointments to the joint Legislative Conference Committee are Senator Dale Volker (Conference Committee Co-Chair), Senator Michael Nozzolio, Senator Martin Golden, Senator John DeFrancisco and Senator David Paterson.

Assembly appointees are Assemblyman Jeffrion Aubry (Conference Committee Co-Chair), Assemblyman Joseph Lentol, Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein, Assemblyman Adriano Espaillat and Assemblyman David Townsend.

The first meeting of the conference committee will be set by the Co-chairs shortly.

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NOTE: Attached is copy of joint Bruno/Silver certificate.



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JOINT CERTIFICATE

Pursuant to Joint Rule II of the Permanent Rules of the Senate and the Assembly

Whereas, Joint Rule II of the Permanent Rules of the Senate and Assembly provides for the convening of joint conference committees to resolve differences between similar legislation adopted by each house of the Legislature; and

Whereas, Senate bill S.1441 and Assembly bill A.7078-A passed each house relating to adjudication and sentencing in drug-related criminal matters; and

Whereas, such bills, although substantially similar, contained differing provisions; and,

Whereas, the Temporary President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly have determined to utilize a joint conference committee to resolve such differing provisions;

Now, therefore, Joseph L. Bruno, as Temporary President of the Senate, and Sheldon Silver, as Speaker of the Assembly, hereby certify to the convening of a Joint Committee on Conference on Senate bill S.1441 and Assembly bill A.7078-A pursuant to Permanent Joint Rule II in accordance with the following:

1. This Joint Conference Committee shall consist of the following members:

Senators:

Dale M. Volker
Co-Chairperson

John A. DeFrancisco

Martin J. Golden

Michael F. Nozzolio

David A. Paterson

Members of the Assembly:

Jeffrion L. Aubry
Co-Chairperson

Adriano Espaillat

Joseph R. Lentol

Helene E. Weinstein

David R. Townsend, Jr.

2. Meetings of such Committee on Conference shall be convened, conducted and recessed by the Co-Chairpersons of the Committee. Such meetings shall be convened as soon as reasonably practicable following the date of the filing of this Joint Certificate. Such Committee shall be dissolved not later than the earlier of the filing of a report pursuant to Joint Rule II, or May 24, 2004, unless extended by written notice signed by the Temporary President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly and filed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the Assembly.

3. The deliberations of such Committee on Conference shall be open to the public and shall be limited to the points of disagreement between Senate bill S.1441 and Assembly bill A.7078-A. Notice of the time and place of meetings shall be given in accordance with Section 104 of the Public Officers Law.

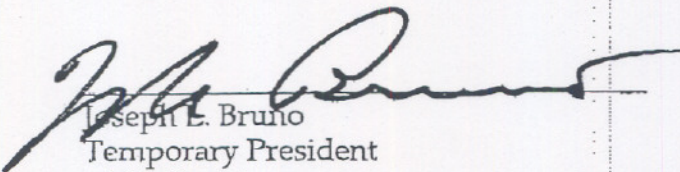
4. Minutes shall be taken of all meetings of the Committee. Minutes shall consist of a summary and vote of all motions, copies of all written proposals, resolutions, and bill drafts presented to the Committee, and the report of the Committee, if adopted and if approved by a majority of the members of each House's delegation, for inclusion in the record of the committee proceedings. Minutes of all meetings shall be available to the public in accordance with the provisions of Article Six of the Public Officers Law.

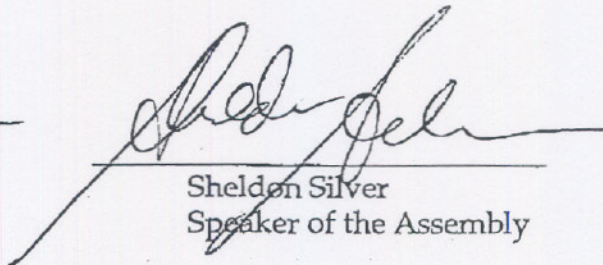
5. The Temporary President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall, in consultation with the Co-Chairpersons of the Committee, designate employees of the Senate and the Assembly to serve as staff for the Committee.

6. On or before the dissolution of such Committee, the Committee may, by vote of the majority of the members of each House's delegation:

- a. file a report which shall include specific bill language;
- b. file a report that it is unable to reach agreement on the legislation being conferenced.

DATED this 10th day of May, 2004.


Joseph E. Bruno
Temporary President
of the Senate


Sheldon Silver
Speaker of the Assembly