

7/9/18-GOVERNOR CUOMO'S RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS IN HOT WATER. LAST WEEK IT POSTED AN INVITATION ON ITS WEBSITE TO A FUNDRAISER AT A ROOFTOP BAR IN MANHATTAN, PROMISING AN ALL YOU CAN DRINK HAPPY HOUR. EXCEPT THAT ISN'T LEGAL. NEW YORK'S ALCOHOL CONTROL LAW BANS OFFERING UNLIMITED DRINKS FOR A SET PRICE AT ANY EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. AFTER REPORTERS STARTED ASKING QUESTIONS THE ALL YOU CAN DRINK PHRASING WAS REMOVED OVER THE WEEKEND.

7/16/18-IT'S TIME FOR NEW YORK TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA. THAT'S ACCORDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN A LONG AWAITED REPORT RELEASED FRIDAY. GOVERNOR CUOMO TASKED THE DEPARTMENT WITH DOING A THOROUGH STUDY OF LEGALIZATION EARLIER THIS YEAR. THE FINAL FINDINGS COME OUT IN SUPPORT OF A REGULATED MARKET FOR RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA, SAYING IT WOULD GENERATE REVENUE FOR THE STATE AT THE SAME TIME IT SAVED ALBANY MONEY BY ELIMINATING THE STREAM OF SUSPECTS IMPRISONED FOR MINOR DRUG CRIMES.

7/17/18-LEGAL SPORTS BETTING COULD BE COMING TO NEW YORK SOONER RATHER THAN LATER. THE STATE GAMING COMMISSION IS REPORTEDLY LOOKING AT WAYS NEW YORK CAN START OFFERING SPORTS BETTING WITHOUT LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL. MINUTES FROM THE LATEST COMMISSION MEETING SHOW EFFORTS ON CONCENTRATING ON ALLOWING MOBILE BETTING, DESPITE A PROHIBITION AGAINST ANY WAGERING OUTSIDE OF STATE LICENSED CASINOS. THAT DOESN'T APPLY TO THE STATE'S INDIAN CASINOS, WHICH ARE REPORTEDLY DEVELOPING THEIR OWN SPORTS BETTING SYSTEM.

7/18/18-GOVERNOR CUOMO HAS BEEN FUDGING THE NUMBERS. HIS CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN TOUTING THAT OVER HALF OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS MASSIVE CAMPAIGN FUND CAME FROM SMALL DONORS. BUT AN INVESTIGATION BY REPORTERS WITH THE ALBANY TIMES UNION FOUND THAT NUMBER WAS ACTUALLY CLOSER TO ONE PERCENT. AND EVEN THAT NUMBER IS SUSPECT. ACCORDING TO DONATION RECORDS FRIENDS AND RELATIVES OF CUOMO CAMPAIGN WORKERS HAVE BEEN MAKING MULTIPLE SMALL DONATIONS, INCLUDING DOZENS FOR JUST ONE DOLLAR, TO PUMP UP THOSE NUMBERS.

7/19/18-YOU COULD SOON BE ENTITLED TO THREE MONTHS OF PAID LEAVE FOR A DEATH IN THE FAMILY. A BILL CURRENTLY SITTING ON GOVERNOR CUOMO'S DESK WOULD EXPAND NEW YORK'S PAID FAMILY LEAVE PROGRAM TO INCLUDE THE LOSS OF A CHILD, SPOUSE, DOMESTIC PARTNER, PARENT, GRANDPARENT, OR GRANDCHILD. SUPPORTERS SAY THE MOVE IS NECESSARY TO HELP PEOPLE RECOVER FROM THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE. IF THE GOVERNOR SIGNS THE MEASURE NEW YORK WOULD BECOME JUST THE THIRD STATE TO MANDATE PAID BEREAVEMENT LEAVE.

7/20/18-THE STEADY STREAM OF CORRUPTION TRIALS DOESN'T SEEM TO BE HURTING GOVERNOR CUOMO. A NEW QUINNIPIAC POLL SHOWS HE HAS A COMFORTABLE LEAD OVER ALL OF HIS CHALLENGERS. ON THE DEMOCRATIC SIDE THAT INCLUDES CYNTHIA NIXON, WHO'S MOUNTING A PRIMARY BATTLE AGAINST CUOMO. BUT POLLING SHOWS CUOMO LEADING NIXON 59 PERCENT TO 29 PERCENT AMONG REGISTERED VOTERS. IN A SIX WAY RACE CUOMO'S CLOSEST CHALLENGER IS REPUBLICAN MARK MOLINARO, BUT EVEN THERE CUOMO HAS A TWENTY POINT ADVANTAGE.

7/25/18-THE STATE IS INVESTING ANOTHER 800-THOUSAND DOLLARS AT GRIFFISS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. SENATOR JOE GRIFFO ANNOUNCED THE FUNDS YESTERDAY. HALF A MILLION DOLLARS WILL PAY FOR AN INDOOR DRONE EXPERIMENTATION AREA, WHILE ANOTHER 300-THOUSAND WILL PAY FOR A MOBILE DRONE COMMAND VEHICLE. THAT WILL ALLOW THE TESTING OF DRONES BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES OF THE AIRPORT. GRIFFISS IS ONE OF JUST SIX SITES ACROSS THE COUNTRY WHERE DRONES CAN BE TESTED IN COMMERCIAL AIRSPACE.

7/31/18-IS GOVERNOR CUOMO UNDER INVESTIGATION? THAT'S WHAT HIS REPUBLICAN CHALLENGER IN THIS FALL'S ELECTION WANTS TO KNOW. MARC MOLINARO HAS FILED SUIT AGAINST THE JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS TO DETERMINE IF THEY'RE ACTUALLY FOLLOWING THROUGH ON FORMAL COMPLAINTS AGAINST CUOMO. EARLIER THIS YEAR MOLINARO FILED A COMPLAINT AFTER IT WAS REVEALED LONG TIME CUOMO AID JOE PERCOCO WAS STILL DOING BUSINESS FROM HIS STATE OFFICE AFTER REPORTEDLY RESIGNING TO WORK ON THE GOVERNOR'S RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN.