



NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP, INC.

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Offices in: Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, Cortland, Fredonia, Long Island, New Paltz, New York City, Syracuse 201

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Dear

Over the last two months we have spoken to all of you about our work on the "toxic-torts" legislation. Senator Riford has received letters and phone calls from many of you. Groups from Cortland, Auburn and Ithaca are applying pressure to Riford, but more is needed if we are going to get a toxic-torts bill passed through the Senate this year. Riford has become more important in this legislation because of his decision not to seek reelection (see attached).

Our next step in the campaign is to meet with Riford and other Senators in person to push for legislation that would allow toxic victims into the courts. On May 6th toxic victims, union members, environmentalists and others concerned with this issue will go to Albany to pressure the State Senate to pass a strong toxic-torts bill. People from this area will meet with Senator's Riford, Kehoe, and Smith. A strong delegation from Riford's district is crucial to get Riford to support this legislation. On the Lobby Day the delegations will be briefed by Governor Cuomo, legislators, and several toxic victims before meeting with the Senators. NYPIRG will be arranging the transportation to Albany so we need to know as soon as possible if you or/and members of your organization can make it.

Several people have been calling Riford on a weekly basis putting constant pressure on him. More phone calls are needed and only take a few minutes to make. Call Senator Riford's Auburn office (315) 252-7585. The main thing to stress is for legislation that is comparable to the Assembly bill (A-8503).

If you are interested in Lobby Day please give us a call (607) 753-4815 or drop us a note as soon as possible. With enough pressure we can make 1986 the year that toxic victims get justice in New York State.

Sincerely,

Ken Deutsch
Project Coordinator