

[Subscribe](#) to our email list



**Brennan Center for Justice  
Citizens Union of the City of New York  
Common Cause New York  
League of Women Voters of New York State (LWNYS)  
New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)**

**Contact**

**For Immediate Release**  
February 12, 2013

Erik Opsal, Brennan Center for Justice, 646-292-8356  
Aries Dela Cruz, Citizens Union, 347-683-3020  
Susan Lerner, Common Cause NY, 917-670-5670  
Barbara Bartoletti, LWNYS, 518-469-8905  
Russ Haven, NYPIRG, 518 424-5047

**Good Government Groups Commend Speaker Silver  
for Moving Forward Early Voting Legislation**

*Assembly Committee Vote on [A689/S1461](#) Makes Passage of Early Voting  
a Priority this Legislative Session*

Leading good government groups in New York issued the following statement today in response to the vote today by the Assembly Election Law committee moving forward the early voting bill sponsored by Speaker Sheldon Silver:

“Our groups praise Speaker Silver for demonstrating that early voting is an important priority this legislative session. By introducing and now moving forward legislation Speaker Silver has made an important statement that enacting early voting is long overdue in New York State.

The 2012 presidential election presented a visible reminder that New York State is a laggard rather than a leader in election administration. While 32 other states have some form of early voting, New York only allows voters to cast their ballots on one day, except in the limited circumstances in which voters are permitted to vote via absentee

ballot. Consequently, New Yorkers faced long lines lasting up to several hours at many poll sites across the state on Election Day, deterring voters from exercising their right to vote.

We praise Speaker Silver for prioritizing making voting more convenient for all New Yorkers, and moving forward early in the legislative session a proposal that will enable voters to vote one week in advance of a primary or special election and two weeks in advance of a general election in numerous locations in each of the state's counties.

Our groups are reviewing best practices associated with early voting, and we look forward to engaging the Speaker's Office, Governor Cuomo, and the entire leadership of the State Senate as the session progresses. We look forward to the implementation of early voting in New York that will increase the opportunity for voters to cast their ballots, while maintaining privacy and the high integrity standards for casting ballots in New York State."

299 Broadway, Suite 700 | New York, NY 10007 US

This email was sent to . To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add us to your address book or safe list.

[manage](#) your preferences | [opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

**Network for Good**

EmailNow powered by Emma