



Media Release

Monroe County Democratic Caucus

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Abolish the MCWA

Democratic Caucus Says 'Enough is Enough'

Rochester, New York – May 16, 2007. Minority Leader Carla M. Palumbo and members of the Democratic Caucus of the Monroe County Legislature today joined the call for the abolishment of the Monroe County Water Authority.

“At some point you have to say ‘enough is enough.’ Transferring the responsibilities, services and operations of the Monroe County Water Authority to the Monroe County Department of Environmental Services will benefit the nearly 600,000 customers depending on the delivery of clean water,” said Minority Leader Carla Palumbo, “The Authority has outlived its usefulness and become far too insulated from public oversight.”

In the months since the state comptroller issued his damning report on the unjustified compensation given former MCWA Director John Stanwix, Palumbo and members of the Democratic Caucus submitted five Water Authority reform proposals and four reform amendments, none of which were supported by Republican colleagues.

“These types of shadowy authorities really have no place in government,” said Legislator Travis Heider (D-Brighton), the Democrat’s liaison to the MCWA. “There are just too many unanswered questions for the MCWA to remain credible.”

Today, County Democrats submitted home rule legislation seeking state action to abolish the MCWA. Democrats are urging Republican colleagues to support this landmark reform legislation. A special meeting of the full legislature has been requested for May 23rd to consider the matter.

Copies of the proposal and letters are attached.

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