



OFFICE OF
STATE TREASURER
DENISE L. NAPIER

NEWS

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NAPIER CALLS ON ROWLAND TO SIGN TREASURY REFORM AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM BILLS; TWO REFORM BILLS WILL HELP TO RESTORE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE AFTER SILVESTER SCANDAL

Statement by Treasurer Nappier:

"The Silvester scandal sparked a serious, meaningful review of the investment decision-making process at the State Treasury and underscored the need for dramatic change in the way state political campaigns are funded. Make no mistake. These issues are interrelated, and Paul Silvester's guilty plea provided us with a roadmap of necessary reforms.

The legislature has successfully navigated a difficult road to pass reforms that address both components of the Silvester scandal to ensure the protection of our public pension dollars, and to eliminate the link between public decisions and private campaign contributions.

I encourage the Governor to keep reform on course by signing both the Treasury Reform bill and the Campaign Finance Reform bill as soon as they reach his desk. This is the only way we can achieve what the citizens of Connecticut expect and deserve... an end to political influence peddling and elimination of the link – real or perceived -- between campaign contributions and government decisions. Together, these actions will form the silver lining of the Silvester scandal.

This is not, and should not, be about politics. It is about public policy, and the need to restore public confidence in the government of our state. We have a very real opportunity to turn Connecticut's election process away from its current unfairness toward first-time candidates, women and minorities. We need to do that without delay, and then move on to other pressing matters that deserve our attention.

I am very proud to be working closely with the Rowland administration and the General Assembly on one of those issues, the implementation of a statewide strategy for expanding opportunities for working families to build assets and save money. This alliance, supporting the establishment of Individual Development Accounts, is about people and opportunity, not politics. I view Treasury reform and campaign finance reform much the same way.

I commend the Governor for his support of Individual Development Accounts and I urge him to sign both of the important reform bills. I look forward to working with Governor Rowland to implement these and other significant initiatives."

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