



Conservation Alliance of New York (CANY)

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PRESS RELEASE / TO OPPOSE

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Conservation Alliance of New York (CANY) President **Dave Miller** (Prattsburgh) said today, "In response to recent events, the CANY Board of Directors has again deliberated in response to the news that Member of the Assembly Alexander "Pete" Grannis has struck the enacting clause of his bills A3006 and A3009. To strike the enacting clause means to kill a bill," said Miller. "Owing to the review of the meaning of the Grannis action the Board has voted to **OPPOSE** the confirmation of Mr. Grannis as DEC Commissioner."

Mr. Miller added, "Mr. Grannis's Assembly bill A3006 would have altered Agriculture and Markets Law as relates '*to prohibiting aggravated cruelty to wild game and wild birds.*' Another Grannis bill, A3009, would have threatened and doubtless neutered the authority of the Department of Environmental Conservation as relates to '*limiting, restricting or prohibiting trapping.*' Both A3006 and A3009 were and remain obnoxious and insulting to traditional conservationists, especially trappers -- men and women whom the CANY Board knows to be among the most knowledgeable of conservationists."

"The CANY Board had long trusted Mr. Grannis to be one among the most principled of legislators and a man with whom the traditional conservationist might have a productive relationship," said Miller. "His recent actions betray a purposeful disinformation campaign as if between opponents, not colleagues. This has disrupted the reserve and confidence of the Board," said Miller. "Therefore, the Board has voted to **OPPOSE** the confirmation of Mr. Grannis as DEC Commissioner."

Miller continued, "Earlier, the Board had determined to favor individual letters from CANY members to the Senate where the matter of confirmation is to be decided. The Board now believes the appointment would ill-serve the conservation community and CANY membership. The CANY Board has determined to state clearly that no one may disagreeably offer a mere sop in transparent effort to disguise many years of legislative assaults, indifference, and other abuses suffered by conservationists that have cost too much time, too many dollars, and often even hope for shared interests and objectives. Sportsmen and women have shown many years of forbearance. We can no longer afford to trust the actions of those who toy with our traditions, our friendships, our allegiances or our lives."

Miller concluded, "In light of the unrelenting pressures upon conservationists -- the salt of the outdoor life -- the CANY Board determined it is in the best interests of the traditional outdoor life and the patient -- but never foolish -- conservationists of New York to **OPPOSE** the appointment and confirmation of Member of the Assembly Alexander "Pete" Grannis for confirmation by the Senate."