RELEASE Senator Avella Suspends Mayoral Campaign

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"When I started this campaign five months ago I knew that I was facing an uphill battle if I wanted to topple an incumbent mayor with deep pockets. Though uphill, the battle was not impossible. If able to stay in this race the entire way I knew that with my resume, coupled with the incumbent's disrespect, disregard, and disdain for the everyday New Yorker, my message could resonate with New York. Five months later, however, I have found that staying in this race without being beholden to dark money is becoming increasingly difficult. Therefore, it is with a somber heart that I announce that as of today I am officially suspending my campaign for Mayor of New York City.

"Throughout my career in government, I have prided myself on being an outsider who made it to the inside and got things done. Unfortunately, in a race like this, being an outsider doesn't get you much. These days, it seems, elections are won with dollars, not votes.

"When the election year politics end and this Mayor has to focus on governing we will see his flaws. As New Yorkers we will have to hope and pray that his mismanagement of the City does not run our city any further into the ground or slow our progress anymore.

"Suspending my campaign for Mayor is not the end of the road for me. I will continue to be the State Senator from Queens and represent the interests of Queens in Albany where I was able to get 13 bills signed into law last year. I will not stop fighting against the current Mayor, or anyone who tries to slow the progress of our great borough and city. I will continue to pass progressive legislation, fight to make New York more affordable, and ensure that the government works for everyone."