

# Tenants are the 99%!

**R3 -The Real Rent Reform Campaign - stands with our sisters and brothers in the Occupy Albany and Occupy Wall Street movements , and we call on Governor Andrew Cuomo and the State Legislature to take these three steps to protect the 99 percent, and to stop catering to the 1 percent.**

# 1

**Strengthen our rent protection laws.** State and local rent and eviction protection laws have been dangerously weakened in the last 20 years. Last June's minor changes to these laws will do nothing to stop the eviction of tenants and the continuing decline of scarce affordable housing. The Governor and Legislature must repeal Vacancy Destabilization, protect Mitchell-Lama and Section 8 housing, and make Major Capital Improvement rent increases temporary.

# 2

**Enact a fair tax code that works for all of us.** Our state tax structure must be made genuinely progressive, must require the rich to pay their fair share, and must raise enough revenue to replace the \$5 billion that will be lost when the current high-income surcharge expires December 31. The just-announced deal between the three men in a room is a step in the right direction, but falls far short of raising the revenues vitally needed for public education, health and human services.

# 3

**Enact non-partisan redistricting.** It is disgraceful that the Legislature is engaging in the usual corrupt gerrymandering process to protect incumbents and preserve the current majorities. Now that the court has thrown out the Republican lawsuit attacking the ban on prison-based gerrymandering, incarcerated persons must be re-allocated back to their district of last residence. **Finally, we thank Governor Cuomo for his promise to veto district lines drawn for partisan purposes.**

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