

Statement from Senator Martin Malavé Dilan

MARTIN MALAVÉ DILAN June 24, 2009

"Realizing that any action taken in these Extraordinary Sessions called by Governor Paterson are moot, my Senate Colleagues and I will remain adjourned until such action is warranted.

Myself and Senate Democrats are more than willing to work with both Senate Republicans and the Governor, but only until such time as we have a legitimate forum and cause to legislate.

It is disingenuous for the Governor to claim that the Senate, a house of 62 members, is putting on a farce. More so, it is disrespectful for him to strong-arm us into an unconstitutionally-called session twice, knowing the situation at hand and the severity of the pending legislation before us.

The Governor needs to get his house in order. Governor Paterson and staff have misinterpreted the State Constitution when it comes to Extraordinary Session. In fact, any action the Senate takes in these sessions—other than confirmations—is null and void without the simultaneous presence of the State Assembly.

Until the Governor properly calls Extraordinary Session, and summons both the Senate and

Assembly to order, myself and my Senate Colleagues will remain adjourned."