



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Sean M. Ryan

## Senator Sean Ryan And Assemblyman Bill Conrad Announce Governor Hochul Has Signed Bill Allowing Amigone To Relocate Tonawanda Crematory

SEAN M. RYAN | October 26, 2021

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**SENATOR SEAN RYAN AND  
ASSEMBLYMAN BILL CONRAD ANNOUNCE  
GOVERNOR HOCHUL HAS SIGNED BILL  
ALLOWING AMIGONE TO RELOCATE  
TONAWANDA CREMATORY**

## *Legislation Allows the Crematory Operated by Amigone Funeral Home in Tonawanda to Move Away from Residential Neighborhood*

**ALBANY** – Today, October 26, 2021, New York State Senator Sean Ryan and Assemblyman Bill Conrad announced that their legislation ([S.6171B/A.6740](#)), which will allow Amigone Funeral Home to relocate its Sheridan Park Crematory to a non-residential area approved by the Town of Tonawanda, has been signed into law by Governor Kathy Hochul.

The legislation allows the relocation of the Tonawanda facility pending the approval of local authorities, and provided they relocate within the Town of Tonawanda. It amends state law that prohibits the construction of new combination funeral home-crematories, and the relocation of those that opened prior to the establishment of that law.

The controversial crematory, which was closed from 2012 to 2018 for violating state clean air laws, was again shut down for four months after its pollution control system failed in September 2020, releasing black smoke into their air for more than an hour. In January, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) allowed Amigone Funeral Home to resume operations at the crematory.

**Senator Sean Ryan** said, “With the passage of this legislation, the path has been cleared for Amigone to do the right thing for Town of Tonawanda residents and relocate their crematory into a non-residential neighborhood. This solution will deliver clean air for the people of Tonawanda while allowing a local business to continue operating under its current business model. It is the culmination of years of activism from Tonawanda residents, and it was made possible by tireless advocacy from their local elected officials. I thank Governor Hochul for signing the bill into law, and I look forward to the Town and the Amigone family working together to finally come to a resolution that suits all parties.”

**Assemblyman Bill Conrad** said, “I want to thank Governor Hochul for signing this bill into law, and I am hopeful the Amigone family will work with the Town of Tonawanda to find a new location for the crematory. Our neighbors deserve breathable air that's free of nuisance odors and emissions. Without this bill's passage, a longstanding state law - along with Amigone's grandfathered status under that law - would have kept the crematory in place, literally in the backyards of private homes. I was pleased to help facilitate a solution that promises to restore residents' quality of life while giving a longstanding business in the Town the opportunity to move to an area better suited to its operations.”

**Tonawanda Town Supervisor Joe Emminger** said, “This piece of legislation is exactly the reason why the people you put in local and state government matter. For over 10 years the Town Board has fought, on behalf of the residents, to get to where we are today. But it took our State elected officials, Senator Sean Ryan and Assemblyman Bill Conrad, to push it across the finish line. I want to thank the two of them, along with Governor Kathy Hochul, for listening to the needs, concerns and wants of the Town of Tonawanda.”

**Tonawanda Town Councilwoman Shannon Patch** said, “Today we are witnessing activism in action. This is what we can accomplish when a group of residents stands together and says, 'This is not OK in our community!' I am thrilled that Governor Hochul has signed this important legislation, which will give Amigone the ability to move to a more appropriate location in our Town. And I am, as always, grateful for our state representatives, Assemblyman Conrad and Senator Ryan, who consistently and continually

show up and go to bat for Tonawanda!”

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RELATED LEGISLATION

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## 2021-S6171B

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- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
- 

Relates to funeral entities and the operation of any crematory or crematorium

April 13, 2021

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by [Sean M. Ryan](#)

Do you support this bill?