

## Groups oppose proposed legislation

By [THOMAS ADAMS](#) - 6/10/2010 3:16:18 PM

Some 30 business groups from throughout the state were in Albany on Thursday to lobby against several bills that, if passed, would result in job losses and impede the state's economic recovery, the groups said.

The group is opposed to 12 pieces of legislation it has dubbed the Dirty Dozen. The legislation includes:

labor mandates for economic development projects financed by industrial development agencies, expansion of the Martin Act, which would increase state regulation and litigation, an increase in fines to businesses that engage in "unconscionable or deceptive acts or practices," a moratorium on drilling for natural gas, redefining the classification of an independent contractor in the state's labor laws, and prevailing wage mandates for utility workers, service workers and farm workers.

"If enacted, these bills will be another nail in the coffin of New York's business community," said Brian Sampson, the Rochester-based executive director of the Unshackle Upstate coalition, in a statement.

"Businesses across the state are striving to compete in a global economy, but between New York's overwhelming tax burden and ill-conceived bills like the ones we're targeting today, they're struggling to survive. The legislature should reject these bills immediately and focus on implementing policies that will improve the state's business climate."

In addition to Unshackle Upstate, the groups included the Rochester Business Alliance Inc., the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, the Business Council of New York State Inc., the New York State Builders Association and the New York office of the National Federation of Independent Business.

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