

Golisano joins Unshackle Upstate coalition

By [THOMAS ADAMS](#)

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Thomas Golisano, fresh off an attempt to help return control of the state Senate to Republicans and a month after changing his residence to Florida, has joined the Unshackle Upstate coalition of business and trade groups, the coalition announced Thursday.

Golisano is the founder and chairman of Paychex Inc., and the owner of the Buffalo Sabres of the National Hockey League. He has run unsuccessfully for governor three times.

"Mr. Golisano is an entrepreneur who has created many jobs in this state," Andrew Rudnick, an Unshackle founder and president and CEO of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, said in a statement.

"He understands the issues facing employers, and how they are tied to the lack of reform in Albany. We look forward to working with him to amplify our voice and strengthen our political action efforts to advance our goals of reducing state spending and improving the conditions of upstate business."

Unshackle Upstate represents some 45,000 employers and 1.5 million employees throughout upstate New York.