

Biography of Andrew M. Cuomo, 56th Governor of New York State

Andrew M. Cuomo served as the 56th Governor of New York from 2011 until 2021. Prior to that, Governor Cuomo served as state attorney general from 2007 to 2010, was Secretary for Housing and Urban Development under the Clinton administration and an assistant district attorney in the Manhattan DA's office.

In 1986 he founded Housing Enterprise for the Less Privileged (HELP) in Brooklyn, NY – a single shelter for families that has since grown to become a network and a national leader in the fight against homelessness.

As governor, Cuomo enacted marriage equality in New York years before it became the law of the land, successfully passed the strongest gun violence prevention and paid family leave laws in the nation and made a \$15 minimum wage and free public college tuition for the middle class a reality.

During his tenure, the state had its highest credit rating in forty years, unemployment was down in every region, and for a solid decade state spending was kept under a 2 percent cap. He enacted a fairer, more progressive tax code, aggressively lowering taxes for the middle class and creating a permanent cap on property taxes, while making New York a more attractive place to do business, by cutting corporate and manufacturing taxes to the lowest levels in decades and lowering the estate tax.

He also successfully enacted the most ambitious infrastructure program in the country rebuilding LaGuardia and JFK airports, Penn and Moynihan train stations, the expansion of the Second Avenue Subway, and the new Mario Cuomo and Kosciuszko bridges.