Cuomo's Policy Agenda Sputters

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On a day when a Siena pol l showed Gov. Andrew Cuomo's job approval rating drop to 50 percent from previously stratospheric digits, the governor took to the air to admit that two of his major policy points will not come to a vote this session.

Cuomo blamed the Independent Democratic Conference for not bringing his women's agenda and campaign finance reform measures to the floor of the Senate for a vote.

"I think it's a mistake for the IDC, who are theoretically Democrats," Cuomo told Susan Arbetter during an interview on "The Capitol Pressroom." "It's not what they said initially, and I think that's what's giving people pause. Women's Equality, especially, campaign finance, public finance, what they're really saying is, these are going to be election issues next year. And they're not going to take them up governmentally."

Earlier in his term, Cuomo enjoyed high approval numbers and was able to tap what seemed like unlimited reserves of political capital to get the Legislature to do what he wanted.

If Cuomo's poll numbers continue to drop — as they have since he forced a gun control package through the Legislature earlier this year — then legislators will have even less hesitation to challenge his agenda.

Cuomo later released a statement encouraging the Senate to take up Speaker Sheldon Silver's campaign finance reform bill.

Cuomo is scheduled to meet with legislative leaders later today. There are only four days left in session.

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