

# Press & Sun-Bulletin

## Greater Binghamton, NY

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*Bruno: No need to select a lieutenant governor quickly*

*By Jay Gallagher*

ALBANY — Despite the fact the state will be without a permanent lieutenant governor until January 2011, the Legislature's top Republican said today there's no chance a measure to fill the job will pass this year.

**“That legislation is not going to pass in the Senate,” Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, R-Brunswick, Rensselaer County, said at a conference on the issue at SUNY’s Rockefeller Institute of Government here.**

The state has had no full-time lieutenant governor since David Paterson succeeded Eliot Spitzer as

governor March 17. Spitzer quit in disgrace after he was identified as a patron of a prostitute, and Paterson was elevated from the No. 2 position to the top job.

Under the state constitution, Paterson's old job will stay vacant until a successor is picked in the next gubernatorial election, in November 2010, and takes office the following January.

In the meantime, Bruno — as temporary president of the Senate — is next in line to be governor.

He said today he sees nothing wrong with that arrangement.

“I enjoy playing two roles,” he said.