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Tuccille GOVERNOR

11 October 1974 (#30-S)
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VOTE "NO" ON RAIL BOND REFERENDUM, SAYS TUCCILLE

Jerry Tuccille, Free Libertarian Party candidate for governor, today urged his fellow New Yorkers to vote "no" to Proposition Number One, the Rail Preservation Bond Act.

The referendum, if approved, would authorize the creation of a State debt in the amount of two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000) "for the purpose of preserving and enhancing commuter and intercity rail passenger and rail freight capital facilities and equipment."

"When the government operates something," said Tuccille, "many people tend to assume that it's not costing them anything. We hear the expressions 'free' transportation and 'public' transportation, implying that no one is paying the bills. But there's no such thing as a free ride. Some resident of Buffalo is paying--through his taxes--to subsidize the inefficiency and incompetence of the Long Island Rail Road, just as the businessman in Great Neck is financing upstate highways he may never use.

"Let's not kid ourselves. Public transportation must be paid for-- either by increasing taxes or by plunging the State further into debt. And if the second course is followed, the amount borrowed--plus interest-- must eventually be repaid. Which means: spend now; raise taxes later. A bond issue like this one makes these facts abundantly clear.

"So we're paying for our buses and trains one way or the other. With a government monopoly on mass transit, however, we're virtually guaranteed inefficiency and incompetence. The alternative is to return urban and intercity transportation to private industry--where competition would spur the development of the best and least expensive forms of transportation.

"Private enterprise is the only solution to our transit crisis. Nothing but disaster can be achieved by putting New York State in hock for an additional \$250 million. I strongly advocate the defeat of the so-called Rail Preservation Bond Act.

"I urge the people of New York to vote 'no' to Proposition Number One on November 5th."