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# Tuccille

## GOVERNOR

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CONTACT: Laura Wertheimer  
(212) 221-3464

TUCCILLE SAYS "END INVOLUNTARY HOSPITALIZATION;"  
RECOMMENDS APPOINTMENT OF SZASZ TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION

Jerry Tuccille, Free Libertarian Party candidate for governor, proposed today that Dr. Thomas Szasz be named to head an investigation of New York State policy toward the "mentally ill."

Dr. Szasz is the distinguished psychiatrist, teacher and author who specializes in the study of therapeutic methods and commitment procedure. He has enthusiastically endorsed Tuccille's position and indicated his willingness to accept such an appointment.

"Every year," said Tuccille, "hundreds of millions of dollars are appropriated by New York State to incarcerate and 'treat' thousands of persons labeled 'mentally ill.'

"Under present laws, an individual may be confined against his will merely by the whim of a relative or psychiatrist who regards him as inconvenient, embarrassing or unconventional. He may have harmed no one, yet by the stroke of a pen, he is stripped of his constitutional rights.

"Once inside a mental institution, he is subjected to such 'treatment' as electrical shock therapy and psycho-surgery: brain operations intended to alter his personality and make him more amenable to control by others.

"Perceptive social critics have warned of a coming 'Therapeutic State' --where all of us will be guided, supervised and modified by a government-supported elite of psychiatric 'experts.' In light of the power now possessed by the psychiatric profession to coercively intervene in the lives of us all, this is a very real danger indeed.

"The goal of Dr. Szasz' study would be to discover methods of increasing the freedom and options of those now classified as mentally ill, and of alleviating the tax burden of New Yorkers who now finance what is termed 'treatment' of such individuals.

"If New York State could take the lead in reversing the trend toward the Therapeutic State, it would signify a major advance for the cause of human liberty."

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Committee For 50,000 Votes Dolores Grande, Treasurer 15 W. 38th Street, Room 201 N.Y., N.Y. 10018  
Tel. 221-3464**