

New York, Pre Scission

February 28, 2019

What might be the pluses and minuses to splitting New York State in two?

“Let’s look at it, get definitive figures,” says a first-term state senator, Daphne Jordan.

Sen. Jordan serves a region in the eastern part of the state. Her proposal for an official study, as yet unsponsored in the Assembly, focuses on splitting the downstate region (all five New York City boroughs, Long Island, and Westchester and Rockland counties) from the 53 upstate counties.

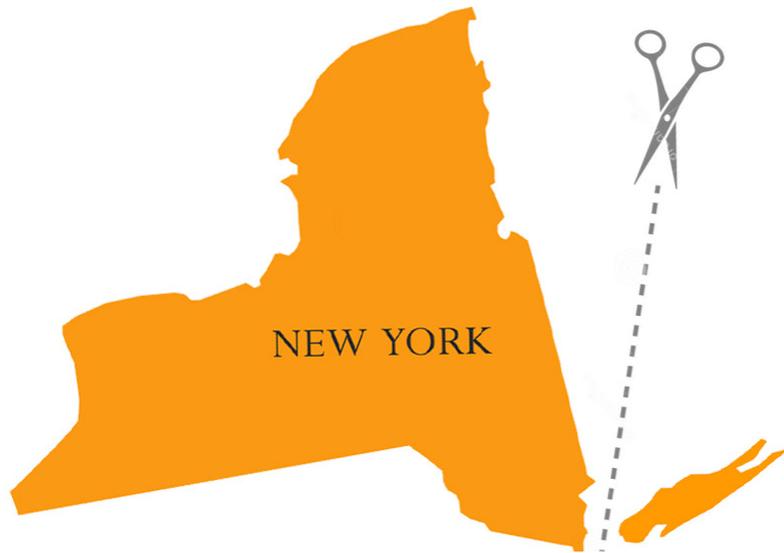
The U.S. Congress would have to approve the creation of a new state, of course, and

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a split would almost certainly be tricky, requiring the geographically larger portion to reconfigure governance completely.

Which is the point.

Downstate politicians and voters have placed



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a lot of alien and debilitating rules, taxes and (worse yet) subsidies upon the increasingly malfunctioning upstate, rural region. Sen. Jordan responded to a charge from a spokesman for Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo that her proposal is “the Godzilla of Pandering” in horror-movie form: the governor’s policies are, she says, “the curse of Dr. Cuomostein.”

In *Cities and the Wealth of Nations*, New York urban analyst Jane Jacobs noted a historical pattern: cities together with their regions constitute the salient macro-economic entities, *not* “nations.” Trouble is, big cities like New York no longer treat their rural areas as partners — in today’s globalist environment, the whole *world* serves as a major city’s “region.”

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Hence the divorce talk.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.