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A vast right-wing conspiracy against New York?

By Tom Precious - October 16, 2012

ALBANY – Hits against New York that it is not a business-friendly state are coming from "right-wing groups" with an agenda, Gov. Andrew Cuomo insisted today.

The comments from the governor depict an administration still stinging from studies last week by the Tax Foundation and the Cato Institute that New York's tax and fiscal policies are out of line with claims that officials want to attract businesses to the state.

"Be careful with quote unquote reports, because you can almost find what you want in numbers," Cuomo said.

"If anyone knows anything, they'll know that those are two right-wing groups," Cuomo said of the organizations releasing last week's reports.

In his first booklet released during his 2010 campaign promoting his positions on various policy ideas, Cuomo, on page 35, cited a Tax Foundation report about New York's high property taxes.

The governor also dismissed the latest media report, this time in the New York Times today, about the state's relatively high unemployment rates. "There are a number of ways to count the numbers," he said of the various aspects of unemployment and job creation reports put out by the federal government.

But he said New York's economic problems were decades in the making and won't be quickly resolved. "We still have more to do and a long way to go," the governor said.