

Former New York governor George Pataki to apply for Hungarian citizenship

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George Pataki, former US governor of New York state, plans to take up Hungarian citizenship and vote in the 2014 general elections, news portal atv.hu said on Wednesday.

The politician, who also has Italian and Irish roots, has always regarded his Hungarian origins as paramount, atv.hu said. The former governor still has strong ties with Hungary and he wants to encourage young Hungarian-Americans to identify more with their heritage, learn more about Hungary, and become ambassadors of Hungarian culture in the US, the website said.

George Pataki's grandfather, Janos Pataki, immigrated to America in 1908.

Pataki, 67, was the Republican governor of the State of New York for 12 years from 1995 and was tipped to run for US president on several occasions.

(politics.hu)