



THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

JAMES N. TEDISCO  
Minority Leader

July 30, 2008

The Honorable Sheldon Silver  
Speaker of the Assembly  
Room 932, LOB  
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Speaker Silver:

New York State is in the midst of a property tax crisis. Without question, skyrocketing property taxes have been – and continue to be – the biggest threat to the quality of life and fiscal stability for all New Yorkers.

I believe that our state has an obligation to deliver real property tax relief to the countless overtaxed, overburdened New Yorkers being crushed in a painful “middle class squeeze.” Our constituents need real property tax relief and they need it immediately.

I am requesting that when we return for the Special Session Governor Paterson has called for August 19, the Assembly enact legislation to cap property taxes, as Majority Leader Skelos has said the Senate will do when it returns on August 8.

One such initiative is our Assembly Minority Conference’s measure, the “New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act,” Assembly Bill A.8775-A, which would effectively cap property levies. Governor Paterson has also introduced a proposal that would cap property taxes. As you may be aware, a Siena College Research Institute poll has reported that a majority of New Yorkers support a property tax cap as a solution to our state’s property tax crisis.

Mr. Speaker, all across our state New Yorkers are hurting. Our constituents are looking to us to make real property tax relief a reality. We can ill-afford to miss this opportunity to help the people we have the privilege of serving who genuinely need our assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Tedisco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James Tedisco  
Assembly Minority Leader