

December 10, 2015

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

I would like to thank you for your determination to bring tax relief to the residents of the Empire State and all of its local communities. Among your efforts, perhaps the most impactful has been the Tax Cap. Unfortunately, in the absence of mandate relief and/or increased state and federal aid, and given the reality of stagnated revenue streams, in spite of our ongoing efforts to collaborate and consolidate services where feasible, local governments have begun to experience financial stress, and in some cases distress, in our efforts to comply with the current iteration of the tax cap. Furthermore, it appears that the tax cap is not currently applied in an equitable manner among all governments.

The results for all too many local communities is that reserve funds are necessarily being drawn down to unhealthy levels, services and employees are being cut, and local officials find themselves having to submit to options that, in the long term, will prove more costly both in terms of service and expenses (e.g., infrastructure).

I would request, therefore, that the current Tax Cap legislation be revisited and amended in such ways as to alleviate what I am certain were its unforeseen negative consequences.

Very truly yours,

Supervisor/Council Member _____

Town of _____