



Reactions To The Property-Tax Cap

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There were many reactions today to the Senate's approval of a school-property-tax cap.

Here's some of them:

"I am pleased that the state Senate approved the property tax cap, a bold step that brings us closer to three-way agreement on a critical piece of legislation that will ease the cost of living in New York. The residents of our state have made it clear they want relief from the crushing burden of local taxes"—Gov. David Paterson, right.

"Today, the New York State Senate passed a tax cap bill which sponsors falsely advertise as "true and meaningful property tax relief." The painful truth for taxpayers across this state is that it would take decades for any significant savings to be realized, as a tax cap would at best slow future growth,"—TREND NY

"This tax-cap proposal is a significant step forward, however the other matters we addressed today, not the least of which is comprehensive mandate relief, must be a vital part of the dialogue if we are to provide significant reform to the real property tax system"—Sen. Steve Saland, R-Poughkeepsie, left.

"Everyone knows that we need a solution to property taxes. But Governor Paterson's 'Tax Cap' is not the answer. In California, Massachusetts and Illinois tax caps had a devastating impact on education—many students were left with overcrowded classes, less teachers and cuts in programs"—Billy Easton, Executive Director of the Alliance for Quality Education said:

"As the working and middle class families of upstate New York continue to be devastated by skyrocketing property taxes, the increasingly burdensome cost of day-to-day living, and a lack of sustainable good paying jobs, Republicans Joe Robach and Jim Alesi are participating, while on the public dime, in a special session of the state Senate that has served as nothing more than a political public relations gimmick meant to bolster a fading Republican Senate Majority"—Democratic candidates Rick Dollinger and David Nachbar.

"Upstate New Yorkers need, and are looking for, relief from the escalating costs of living. Our property tax relief plan is one step in the right direction to help working men and women and people on fixed incomes from this, the most onerous tax"—Sen. Joseph Robach, R-Greece, Monroe County.