



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John J. Flanagan

Statement From Senate Majority Leader John J. Flanagan

JOHN J. FLANAGAN February 12, 2018

| ISSUE: **STATE BUDGET PROCESS, SENATE AFFORDABILITY AGENDA**



The Governor's 30-day amendments and the debate and discussion centered around how to react to the recent federal tax changes make one thing very clear - **this year's state budget** must prioritize making New York more affordable for taxpayers and their families.

Senate Republicans have already advanced a comprehensive plan to cut property taxes, cut income taxes, cut energy taxes, and cut taxes on retirement income, and to make the property tax cap permanent. While we are pleased that the Governor has followed the Senate's lead in decoupling the state and federal tax codes to save New Yorkers \$1.5 billion, it

is also critical that we balance this year's budget without the \$1 billion in new taxes and fees proposed by the Governor.

We should be cutting taxes, not raising them.