



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

## Senate Democratic Majority Empowers New York Taxpayers To Better Navigate STAR Tax Credit Program

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS June 3, 2019

Albany, NY- The Senate Democratic Majority today passed legislation to help New Yorkers navigate the STAR tax relief program. This bill, sponsored by Senator Pete Harckham, will create the Office of STAR Ombudsman which will be available for New York to contact, learn more about the STAR program rebate, and receive timely answers to their outreach.

“This legislation will help empower homeowners and make it easier to navigate the STAR credit program,” Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said. “The STAR credit should be a relief to homeowners, not a burdensome and overwhelming application process. I commend Senator Harckham for this legislation and his advocacy on behalf of New York’s taxpayers.”

Bill Sponsor, Senator Pete Harckham said, “It is unacceptable that taxpayers have to wait so long for money they are owed. If the IRS can issue most tax refunds within 21 days of filing, the state should also have a quick turnaround time for STAR rebates. The passage of this bill today will give new rights to STAR recipients and makes it clear that an overhaul of the STAR process is a top priority for the Senate Majority. Further, the creation of the STAR Ombudsman will give taxpayers one source of contact to resolve issues rather than the maze they must navigate now.”

Senate Bill, S.4024-B, will:

Create the Office of STAR Ombudsman that will help homeowners navigate the STAR credit process in a timely manner.

Establish the STAR Credit Bill of Rights that will set standards for communications with taxpayers and improve the efficiency of providing the rebates to the recipients.

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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### **2019-S4024B**

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- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- - Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor

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Enacts the "STAR credit bill of rights" and establishes the office of STAR ombudsman

February 25, 2019

In Senate Committee [Budget and Revenue](#)

Sponsored by [Pete Harckham](#)

Do you support this bill?