



January 22, 2021

Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Temporary President & Majority Leader
New York State Senate
The Capitol, Room 332
Albany, New York 12247

RE: **Middle Class Tax Cut**

Dear Leader Stewart-Cousins:

With negotiations on a new State Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 now underway, we are writing to encourage you and your Conference Members to stand together with our Senate Republican Conference in strong opposition to Governor Cuomo's misguided proposal to delay the middle class tax cuts that are due to take place this year.

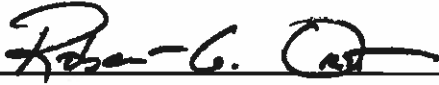
As you know, once fully implemented, this landmark, \$4.2 billion tax cut initiative will reduce middle class personal income tax rates by 20 percent, helping 6 million hardworking, middle class New Yorkers and tens of thousands of small businesses.

It is vitally important to remember that these historic tax cuts, which were enacted with strong bi-partisan support, have already been *promised* to New Yorkers. Even during the best of times, renegeing on this promise would represent a major step in the wrong direction for our overtaxed state. But taking away this promised relief *now* – at a time when many New Yorkers and small businesses are struggling to cope with the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic – would be particularly shortsighted, counterproductive and wrong.

As our Senators and fiscal staff continue to review the specific details of the new Executive Budget, this particular proposal has already emerged as being among the most problematic measures for countless residents of our state. In light of the broad, bi-partisan support that these tax cuts have previously enjoyed, we are now urging the Senate Democrat Conference to stand with us in pledging opposition to any final budget proposal that fails to deliver this middle class tax cut *on-time and as-promised*.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Senator Robert G. Ort



Senator Anthony H. Palumbo



Senator Patty Ritchie



Senator Sue Serino



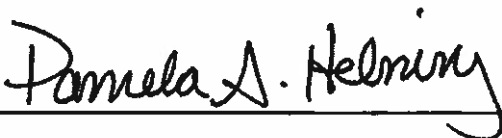
Senator Fred Akshar



Senator George M. Borrello



Senator Phil Boyle



Senator Pamela Helming



Senator Patrick M. Gallivan



Senator Joseph A. Griffo



Senator Mario Mattera



Senator Andrew J. Lanza



Senator Daniel G. Stec



Senator Alexis Weik



Senator Edward Rath III



Senator James Tedisco

Daphne V. Jordan

Senator Daphne Jordan

Peter Oberacker

Senator Peter Oberacker

Thomas F. O'Mara

Senator Thomas F. O'Mara

Michael V. Martucci

Senator Mike Martucci