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**Groups Support Governor Paterson's Proposal to Eliminate
the STAR Rebate Checks**

**Consortium Says This Flawed Program Must be Replaced
with Meaningful Circuit Breaker**

(Albany, N.Y.)—A coalition of property tax-reform groups, fiscal watchdogs, and unions will hold a live, streaming press conference tomorrow to call upon Governor Paterson and the State Legislature to enact the Omnibus Property Tax Relief and Reform Act's Circuit Breaker and eliminate the flawed STAR rebate check program. They all agree that the STAR Rebates are useless when it comes to providing meaningful property tax relief. They provide small checks to everyone regardless of whether they are overburdened by property taxes or not.

The groups called upon state leaders to redirect these savings to the Consortium's phased-in circuit breaker. All other elements of STAR would be left intact (Basic STAR and Enhanced STAR)—only the rebate checks would be redirected. Find out more about the Omnibus Tax Relief and Reform Act by going to www.omnibustaxsolution.org.

Who: Omnibus Tax Consortium Members:

Frank Mauro, Fiscal Policy Institute
Gioia Shebar, Tax Nightmare
Susan Zimet, Ulster County Legislator
Ron Deutsch, New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness
Bernetta Calderone, Women's Issues Leader, Corrections
Bill and Ellie Trumbour, NY Farm Bureau
John Whiteley, NYS Tax Reform Coalition, Tri County Tax Reform
Roberta Whiteley, NYS Tax Reform Coalition, Tri County Tax Reform

Where: Streamed live on the internet at www.omnibustaxsolution.org.
Or, <http://www.totalwebcasting.com/live/omnibus/>.

When: 11:00 A.M.

Reporters will be able to e-mail questions and get answers in real time.

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Omnibus Consortium Members

Susan Zimet

Ulster County Legislator- Chair Ulster County Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding and Tax Reform (Ulster BRC) and Property Tax Agenda

Rich Gerentine

Ulster County Legislator, Ulster BRC

John Whiteley

Tri County Tax Reform, NYS Tax Reform Coalition

Roberta Whiteley

Tri County Tax Reform

Robert McKeon

TREND (Tax Reform Effort of Northern Dutchess County), Tax Reform Coordinator

Bernetta Calderone

Taxnightmare.org Coordinating Committee, Women's Issues Leader for Correction Dept., Ulster BRC

Tara O'Connor-Alisse

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Coordinator, Taxnightmare.org, Ulster BRC

Bill Hecht

Cayuga County Property Tax Reform Coordinator

Frank Mauro

Fiscal Policy Institute, author of the Omnibus Property Tax Relief and Reform Bill

Ron Deutsch

New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness, Omnibus Consortium Coordinator

Melinda Person

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Ellie and Bill Trumpbour

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