

- Please write to the Governor at the address below. A model letter is here for you to use if you wish.
- Please telephone the Governor with your concerns over this proposal at 518-474-8390.
- Please email the Governor by going to www.ny.gov and clicking on “contact the Governor”

Thank you! Please copy the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks on any written correspondence (897 St. Davids Lane, Niskayuna, NY 12309, or dgibson@protectadks.org)

Model Letter

Hon. David A. Paterson, Governor
State of New York
Executive Chamber
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Paterson:

Please rescind your proposed tax cap on payment of taxes on the New York State Forest Preserve. The Forest Preserve is owned by all New Yorkers. All of us who benefit from these magnificent wilderness lands have since 1886 had an obligation to pay taxes in full to all local villages, towns and school districts.

Your proposal to freeze taxes on State Lands creates a very unfair, two-tiered taxing system whereby individuals have to pay full taxes, while the state pays a reduced tax, shifting the tax burden for small Adirondack and Catskill towns onto those already having difficulty paying their taxes.

The Forest Preserve is a magnificent resource for this and future generations. However, public support for the Forest Preserve will erode if the State does not pay its way in these great parks. Please do not allow this to happen. Please reinstate taxes for all purposes on these great wilderness lands owned in common by all of us, with the resulting tax spread thinly and evenly over every New York taxpayer, as has been the case for over 120 years.

Sincerely,