



TOWN of GREENBURGH

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR

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PAUL J. FEINER
Supervisor

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Mayor Leo Weigman
Village of Croton on Hudson
One Van Wyck Street
Croton, NY 10520

Dear Mayor Weigman,

I would appreciate your contacting your state representatives in Albany and requesting that they push for the repeal of arbitration panels. It would be easier for local governments to implement the property cap approved by the Governor and New York State Legislature if our state lawmakers eliminate police arbitration panels. These panels of unelected arbitrators set salaries for police/firefighters and have the power to impose excessive salary hikes on local governments around the state. In years past, the salary hikes imposed by arbitration panels for police and firefighters exceeded inflation.

Elected officials are being asked to control property tax hikes. We're being told that we can't raise taxes over a certain amount. Yet, we currently have no control over the salaries of a large number of our employees - public safety employees. New York State should provide local officials with the ability to control all salaries under our jurisdiction. The buck should stop with elected officials who approve budgets, not with unelected arbitrators. Arbitration panels were created in New York as part of the Taylor Law in the 1960s with the objective of creating harmonious and cooperative relationships between government and its employees. The law is outdated and should be repealed.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Feiner
Town Supervisor

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