



Dutchess County *Young Republicans*



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Democrat's Tax Obsession Costing Dutchess County Jobs!

The tax and spend liberal ideology of the Democratic majorities in the State Legislature and beyond continues to take its toll on the people of New York, and particularly here in Dutchess County. The Democrat-controlled State Senate has approved a budget that will eliminate an important tax exemption used by AAG, a local aircraft company doing business out of Dutchess Airport.

AAG has said due to the tax implications; they will be forced to exit Dutchess County and the state of New York, leaving in ruins 79 local jobs – worth \$6 million in payroll.

The impact will be long lasting and exponential as the job losses trickle down via lost governmental revenue (estimated at \$1.1 million annually to Dutchess County, and more than \$36,000 in annual property taxes to the town of Wappinger); related declines in associated businesses; and the overall weakening of the Dutchess County economy.

Only months ago during County Budget negotiations, Democrats in the Dutchess County Legislature foolishly proposed pulling all county support to the Dutchess County Airport. That proposal was abandoned due to the severe economic ramifications – but did little to keep Democratic County Legislators from raising property taxes by 11%. While local Democrats toyed with economically dismantling the county airport, their Democratic counterparts in the State Senate appear ready to permanently ground all airport jobs through their crippling and excessive taxation policies.

Unfortunately, this type of anti-business, anti-consumer taxing policies is the reigning pattern of the governing Democrats from Washington to Albany to Dutchess County. Democrats need to realize that their tax-and-spend ideology hinders growth and success.

Democratic leadership would be wise to remember the Mario Cuomo years when excessive and hefty taxes caused the wealthy – and the enormous tax revenues they contributed – to move out of state resulting in crushing taxation to the middle class.

Frivolous regressive taxes such as bottle deposits on water bottles, increased DMV fees, and growth-paralyzing MTA taxes are not the answer to helping New Yorkers out of the recession. Policies

that prohibit investment and removing incentives that keep employers like AAG in the state is outright foolish.

The liberal New York Democrat majority in the State Legislature, as well as in Washington D.C. and at home in the Dutchess County Legislature need to realize they are taxing us to death. If they can't see this, then hopefully voters will.

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