

Assemblymember Angelo Santabarbara  
Assembly District 111  
2550 Riverfront Center  
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Monday, January 29, 2018

Dear Assemblymember Santabarbara,

I am writing to show my support of your bill, NY – A5192, which would shift the burden of the Alternative Veteran’s Tax Exemption from local taxpayers to the state by creating an additional enhanced exemption for the School Tax Relief Program (STAR) program specifically for veterans, similar to that of the current enhanced STAR program for New York’s seniors.

As a taxpayer in the Berne-Knox-Westerlo School District, I am extremely aware of the district’s efforts to fund a quality education while balancing the financial needs of our community and the desire to honor its veterans.

The establishment of a school tax exemption specifically for veterans titled "V-STAR" would honor our service men and women while moving the cost of providing the exemption from the school district - and its taxpayers – to the state.

The BKW school community takes these issues very seriously, and we expect our representatives to do the same. I commend you for the action you’ve taken on this issue so far, and urge you to be persistent in shifting the cost of this tax exemption to the state.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A member of the Schalmont School District community