



MARY BETH WALSH
Assemblywoman 112th District

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An Important Message from Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh

Dear Friend,

I hope this letter finds you well into a happy, healthy and productive New Year.

I'm reaching out today in an effort to ensure that you are taking full advantage of the savings available to you under current law. If you are turning 65 in 2018 and meet the necessary requirements, you might qualify for additional savings on your school tax bill through the Enhanced STAR program!

If you are an individual who owns your primary residence, meets the program's income requirements and turns 65 years old **at any time during 2018**, you could be eligible for Enhanced STAR school tax exemption. In some cases this program can offer participants more than twice the value of the Basic STAR exemption, so if you meet these requirements, be sure to file your application before the deadline on **March 1, 2018**.

In the past, some homeowners have missed out on this opportunity because they believed they needed to be 65 years old in order to apply. However, **anyone who is turning 65 this year can apply for Enhanced STAR exemption**. Regardless of when you are turning 65, **your application must be received by the deadline on March 1, 2018**.

Enhanced STAR exemption is available to homeowners 65 years of age or older with an income that did not exceed \$86,000 in 2016. In the case of joint property ownership between spouses or siblings, only one homeowner needs to be 65, however, eligibility is based on the homeowners' combined income. Basic STAR benefits are still available to those who exceed the income limit.

If you have any questions about how to apply for this program, or the eligibility requirements, please do not hesitate to contact your local assessor, or call my district office at (518) 884-8010.

Best Wishes,

Mary Beth Walsh
New York State Assembly
112th District