

# Area Lawmakers Protest State Bailing Out NYC

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Jamestown's federal and state representatives have joined forces in protesting that New York state taxpayers should not be expected to bail out New York City.

In a letter to Sen. William Proxmire of Wisconsin, Rep. Stanley N. Lundine and Assemblyman Rolland E. Kidder have taken issue with a letter Proxmire sent to President Jimmy Carter suggesting that New York City's financial problems can be solved entirely with state and local funds.

If Carter took that attitude, they wrote, the result would be further deterioration of business prospects across the state and an unjustified tax burden on residents.

"The high level of corporate and personal taxation in New York state has taken a terrible toll over the past decade," the two lawmakers wrote Proxmire. "Industries by the hundreds and jobs by the thousands have left the state as a result of the high tax burden. Other employers have announced that they will not expand their New York state operations while taxes remain at their present level."

"The realities of the present situation place a heavy financial load upon the residents of upstate New York," they continued... "Our constituents in Jamestown, New York, pay the highest percentage of their income in state taxes of any people

America. It is not realistic to assume that residents of New York state will agree to assume heavier local taxes on behalf of New York City — nor should they be expected to do so."

Lundine and Kidder said that Gov. Hugh L. Carey's proposed tax cut represents a serious effort to reverse the present downward trend and restore the economy of New York state. "Demanding that federal aid be contingent upon New York state taxpayers foregoing a tax cut would only ensure the indefinite continuation of the present crisis."

"We ask you not to deny federal loans to New York City simply because the state is making a good-faith effort to help itself," the two Jamestown men concluded.