LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE HAMPTONS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE HAMPTONS HOSTS PUBLIC FORUM ON
“THE NYS SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX CAP BILL:
HOW WILL IT AFFECT OUR TAXES? OUR SCHOOLS?”
Monday, September 8, 7 p.m.

For a timely “back to school” program, the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons is hosting
a free community forum on “The NYS School Property Tax Cap Bill: How Will It Affect Our Taxes?
Our Schools?”

The meeting takes place on Monday, September 8, at 7 p.m. at the Bridgehampton Unitarian
Universalist Meetinghouse, 977 Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike, nearly two miles north of the
Bridgehampton War Memorial on Montauk Highway.

School administrators and teachers, school board members, parents and the general public are all
invited to hear the pros and cons of the legislation from the distinguished panel composed of State
Senator Kenneth LaValle, of the Senate Education Committee; State Assemblyman Fred Thiele, of the
Assembly Education Committee; Gary Bixhorn, Chief Operating Officer of Eastern Suffolk BOCES;
and Richard Iannuzzi, President of the NYS United Teachers (NYSUT).

A tax cap bill, S.8736, based on the recommendations of the NYS Commission on Property Tax
Relief, passed the State Senate on August 8. It would cap a school district’s property tax increase at 4%,
or 120% of the consumer price index, whichever is less. The cap excludes the taxes needed for capital
improvements. It provides that a school district can override this cap if 55% of voters approve the
budget. Companion bills were also passed in the Senate on August 8 to help reduce school district costs.

On August 19, the State Assembly passed an alternate bill, A.11838, to cap property taxes
through a different approach, a “circuit breaker” that would provide property tax reductions based on a
family’s income.

The speakers will explain the ramifications of the bills and answer audience questions. Handouts
at the meeting will provide details on the bills. For further information, call the League at 283-0759. To
join the League, call 324-8662.

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