



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kevin Thomas

## Senator Thomas Introduces Bill to Freeze Tuition Costs at SUNY and CUNY Universities

KEVIN THOMAS January 31, 2020

| ISSUE: [SUNY](#), [CUNY](#), [COLLEGE TUITION](#), [ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION](#)



(Garden City, NY) State Senator Kevin Thomas (D-Levittown) today introduced a bill (S7615) today that would freeze tuition costs at state and city universities for four years.

The purpose of the legislation is to provide relief for students and address the widening \$139 million "TAP Gap", the difference between the state's tuition assistance program funding and actual tuition costs. By freezing tuition, the growth of the TAP gap will remain stagnant for

the first time in five years. The bill would also require SUNY and CUNY boards to study and develop a report on best methods to close the TAP gap.

“Public universities are a vital resource because they provide families access to college at an affordable price,” said Senator Kevin Thomas. “Annual tuition increases only widen the TAP gap and force our students to shoulder the cost. We need to relieve the pressure on students and families, and come up with a long-term solution to ensure that SUNY and CUNY remain world-class higher education institutions that are accessible to all New Yorkers.”

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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### **2019-S7615**

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- Introduced
  
- - In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
  
- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate

- ○ Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
- 

Relates to freezing tuition costs at state and city universities for four years; and requiring a report examining the affordability of such public institutions

January 31, 2020

In Senate Committee [Higher Education](#)

Sponsored by [Kevin Thomas](#)

Do you support this bill?