

**NEW YORK STATE AND CITY LEGISLATIVE
SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 2003**

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

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2003 NEW YORK STATE AND NEW YORK CITY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The following are brief summaries of New York State laws and New York City local laws adopted during 2003 that affect City taxes and other areas within the Department of Finance's jurisdiction. Citations are provided after each summary for readers who wish to consult the laws themselves.

PERSONAL INCOME TAX

TEMPORARY CITY PERSONAL INCOME TAX SURCHARGE IMPOSED

Upper-income City residents will be subject to a two-level City personal income tax surcharge for tax years beginning in 2003, 2004 and 2005. The surcharge, embodied in two new tax brackets, applies to joint filers and surviving spouses with taxable income exceeding \$150,000, to heads of household with taxable income over \$125,000 and to singles, married persons filing separately and estates and trusts with taxable income over \$100,000. Taxpayers whose incomes are more than the above amounts but not more than \$500,000 will pay tax on the income in that bracket at the rate (including the surcharge) of 4.25% for years beginning in 2003, 4.175% for years beginning in 2004 and 4.05% for years beginning in 2005. The tax rate (including the surcharge) on the amount of taxable income that exceeds \$500,000 is 4.45% for each of the three years. The law imposing the surcharge also provides for the phase-out of the benefits of the lower tax rates that apply under the City's graduated rate structure.

- Chapter 63 (Part B), NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Local Law 41 of 2003

UNPAID USE TAXES TO BE REPORTED IN PERSONAL INCOME TAX FORM

State personal income tax forms will be required to include a line for reporting and paying state and local compensating use taxes owed on out-of-state purchases. The state tax department is also mandated to publicize the legal obligation of New York consumers to pay use taxes on out-of-state purchases, whether made in person or via the Internet, mail order or telephone.

- Chapter 62 (Part R3), NYS Laws of 2003

PERSONAL INCOME TAX MODIFICATION REQUIRED FOR SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE DEDUCTION

For tax years beginning after 2002, the federal deduction allowed under Internal Revenue Code section 179 for a sport utility vehicle weighing over 6,000 pounds is not allowed

(except in the case of an eligible farmer) for New York State and City personal income tax purposes.

- Chapter 62 (Part K3), NYS Laws of 2003

PERSONAL INCOME TAX PARTIALLY UNCOUPLED FROM FEDERAL BONUS DEPRECIATION RULES

For tax years beginning after 2002, certain federal bonus depreciation provisions enacted in 2002 and 2003 will not apply for New York State and City personal income tax purposes, except with respect to property located in Manhattan below Houston Street.

- Chapter 62 (Part O3), NYS Laws of 2003

NEW YORK STATE AND CITY PERSONAL INCOME TAX TREATMENT OF “RESIDENT TRUST” MODIFIED

The State and City personal income tax laws have been amended to provide that a resident trust will not be taxable if: (1) all the trustees are domiciled in a state other than New York; (2) the entire corpus of the trust is located outside New York; and (3) all income and gains of the trust are from sources outside New York. For purposes of condition (1), a banking corporation trustee that is domiciled outside New York at the time it becomes a trustee will not be deemed to become a New York-domiciled trustee due to the fact that it is later acquired by, or becomes a branch of, a corporate trustee domiciled in New York.

- Chapter 658, NYS Laws of 2003

SALES AND USE TAX

CITY SALES TAX TEMPORARILY INCREASED

New York City’s sales and use tax rate has been increased from 4 percent to 4.125 percent during the period from June 4, 2003 to May 31, 2005; however, the higher rate is effective as of September 1, 2003 with respect to the special City sales taxes on credit rating and credit reporting services, certain cleaning and maintenance services, protective and detective services and specified personal services such as beauty, barbering, manicuring and health salon services and services sold by weight control and gymnasium facilities. The rate will revert to 4 percent on June 1, 2005. (As a result of a two-year increase in the State rate from 4 percent to 4.25 percent, in addition to the 0.25 percent MTA rate, the total general sales and use tax rate in the City will be 8.625 percent during the period ending May 31, 2005.)

- Chapter 63 (Part J), NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Local Law 35 of 2003

CLOTHING AND SHOE EXEMPTION FROM SALES TAX TEMPORARILY REPLACED BY TAX-FREE WEEKS

The State and City sales tax exemption for articles of clothing and footwear selling for less than \$110 has been suspended during the period from June 1, 2003 to May 31, 2004; during that period two sales tax holidays will be held for clothing and footwear items costing less than \$110, the first from August 26 to September 1, 2003 and the second from January 26 to February 1, 2004. The permanent exemption will be restored as of June 1, 2004.

- Chapter 62 (Part I3) and Chapter 63 (Part S), NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Council Resolution 937 of 2003

[**Note:** Status of provision as of June 9, 2004: Chapter 101 of NYS Laws of 2004 provides for a continuation of the suspension of the permanent exemption until July 31, 2004.]

CITY CIGARETTE TAX INCLUDED IN SALES TAX BASE

Beginning September 1, 2003, the City excise tax on cigarettes will be added to the sales price of cigarettes on which the state and local sales and use taxes are calculated. (The New York State cigarette tax has been included in the sales and use tax base since 1989.)

- Chapter 62 (Part Q3), NYS Laws of 2003

SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR COIN-OPERATED VEHICLE VACUUMING SERVICES EXPANDED

An existing sales tax exemption for coin-operated motor vehicle vacuuming equipment located in car washes has been expanded to cover such equipment located at facilities other than car washes.

- Chapter 489, NYS Laws of 2003

REAL PROPERTY TAX

REAL ESTATE TAX SURCHARGE IMPOSED ON ABSENTEE LANDLORDS

Beginning with the City fiscal year that starts July 1, 2003, Class 1 property (generally a one- to three-family home) that is not the owner's primary residence and that provides rental income will be subject to a surcharge equal to 25 percent of the net tax payable on the property after deducting available exemptions and abatements. Property that is eligible to receive the STAR real estate tax exemption will be deemed to be the owner's primary residence for purposes of the surcharge; in addition, the surcharge will not apply if the property is the primary residence of the owner's parent or child. (The state law

authorizing the surcharge permits the City to raise the surcharge rate by local law to as much as 50 percent for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2004.)

- Chapter 63 (Part G), NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Local Law 47 of 2003

[**Note:** NYC Local Law 6 of 2004 has postponed the surcharge until the City's fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006.]

CLASS SHARES ADJUSTED FOR CITY FY 2004 REAL ESTATE TAX LEVY

Article 18 of the Real Property Tax Law requires that the adjusted base proportions of the four real property tax classes in the City (which determine the share of the total tax levy that each class must bear) be revised each year to reflect relative changes in market value, subject to a five-percent limit on the increase in any class's share of the levy. For FY 2004 only, the five-percent limit on increases has been reduced to two percent. The measure provides for the issuance of revised real estate tax bills for FY 2004 in place of the bills mailed prior to its enactment.

- Chapter 400, NYS Laws of 2003

LOCAL ASSESSORS REQUIRED TO FILE ANNUAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Beginning in 2004, all municipal employees who assess real property for tax purposes will be required to file annual financial disclosure statements with local conflict of interest boards or other appropriate bodies.

- Chapter 548, NYS Laws of 2003

INCOME CEILING RAISED FOR SENIOR CITIZEN HOMEOWNER EXEMPTION (SCHE) PROGRAM

Localities such as New York City that grant the partial real estate tax exemption to limited-income homeowners age 65 or over have been authorized to increase the maximum income eligibility ceiling for the 50 percent exemption from \$21,500 to \$24,000. The City has implemented this increase. In addition, the brackets of the declining exemption schedule have been revised to reflect the increase; thus a senior homeowner whose income is more than \$24,000 but less than \$25,000 can qualify for the 45-percent exemption while a senior whose income is at least \$31,500 but less than \$32,400 can qualify for the 5-percent exemption. These changes apply beginning with the City's 2004-2005 assessment roll.

- Chapter 512, NYS Laws of 2003 and Local Law 68 of 2003

INCOME CEILING RAISED FOR SENIOR CITIZEN RENT INCREASE EXEMPTION (SCRIE) PROGRAM

Limited-income tenants who are age 62 or over and reside in rent-regulated apartments may be eligible for exemption from rent increases that would cause their rents to exceed one-third of their household income; their landlords are compensated for the lost rental income by means of real estate tax abatements. Localities--including New York City--that have adopted the SCRIE program have been authorized to increase the income eligibility ceiling from \$20,000 to \$24,000. The City has adopted a local law to implement this increase, effective as of September 1, 2003.

- Chapter 382, NYS Laws of 2003 and Local Law 67 of 2003

WAITING PERIOD ELIMINATED FOR SCRIE BENEFIT ADJUSTMENT WHERE SENIOR RENTER'S INCOME PERMANENTLY REDUCED

Conforming the Administrative Code to a state law change adopted last year (Chapter 594, Laws of 2002), the City Council has eliminated a waiting period of up to one year before an increased SCRIE benefit can be claimed by a SCRIE recipient whose income has been permanently reduced by more than 20 percent. The amendment applies to applications filed on or after March 23, 2003.

- NYC Local Law 56 of 2003

INCOME CEILING RAISED FOR DISABLED HOMEOWNER EXEMPTION

Disabled homeowners with limited incomes may be eligible for a partial real estate tax exemption. Localities that allow this exemption have been authorized to increase the income eligibility ceiling for the 50 percent exemption from \$21,500 to \$24,000. The City has implemented this increase. In addition, the brackets of the declining exemption schedule have been revised to reflect the increase; the partial exemption phases out for disabled homeowners whose incomes are \$32,400 or more. These changes apply beginning with the City's 2004-2005 assessment roll.

- Chapter 462, NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Local Law 84 of 2003

REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENT EXTENSION AUTHORIZED FOR CERTAIN MILITARY PERSONNEL

Localities have been authorized to grant property owners deployed to the military an interest- and penalty-free extension of time for paying their real estate taxes. Under the measure, the payment deadline for an individual ordered to active military duty would be extended for 90 days following the end of his or her deployment. (The City has not yet acted to implement this measure.)

- Chapter 106 (§ 41), NYS Laws of 2003

PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS ALLOWED ADDITIONAL REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS

New York's Public Housing Law grants state and municipal public housing projects a real property tax exemption for up to 50 years, but did not authorize any exemption after the expiration of the 50-year period. An amendment to the statute allows localities to grant an additional period of exemption for up to 50 years following the expiration of the initial exemption.

- Chapter 449, NYS Laws of 2003

EXTENSION OF REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION PERIOD AUTHORIZED FOR LIMITED-PROFIT AND LIMITED-DIVIDEND HOUSING PROJECTS

The statutory provisions that grant real estate tax exemptions to projects owned by limited-profit and limited-dividend housing companies organized under the Private Housing Finance Law have been amended to provide that upon the expiration of the initial exemption an additional exemption may be granted for a period of up to 50 years, unless the project ceases to operate under the PHFL provisions before that time.

- Chapter 389, NYS Laws of 2003

REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION FOR NEW MULTIPLE DWELLINGS EXTENDED TO PROJECTS INCORPORATING EXISTING STRUCTURES

The real property tax exemption program covering newly constructed multiple dwellings has been expanded to cover projects that include new residential construction and the concurrent conversion, alteration or improvement of an existing building, provided the floor area of the existing building does not comprise more than 49 percent of the completed project. In Manhattan between 110th Street and Chambers Street, such a project can qualify for the exemption only if it is aided by a grant, loan or subsidy from a federal, state or local agency.

- Chapter 447, NYS Laws of 2003

J-51 EXEMPTION PROGRAM EXTENDED TO PROJECTS THAT INCLUDE NEW CONSTRUCTION

The J-51 program provides real property tax exemptions and abatements for alterations and improvements to existing multiple dwellings. The J-51 law has been amended to authorize the City to expand the program so as to allow exemption (but not abatement) benefits for projects that result in an expansion of the gross cubic content of the building, provided the floor area of the existing building that was converted, altered or improved comprises at least 50 percent of the completed structure. In Manhattan between 110th

Street and Chambers Street, such a project can qualify for exemption benefits only if it is aided by a grant, loan or subsidy from a federal, state or local agency.

- Chapter 450, NYS Laws of 2003

ROOM-COUNT METHODOLOGY ALTERED FOR PURPOSES OF J-51 ABATEMENT LIMITATION

Under the J-51 real property tax exemption and abatement program, the amount of the abatement may be subject to a fixed-dollar limitation based on the number of rooms in an apartment. For purposes of determining the room count, a cross-reference to the applicable zoning resolution has been eliminated, and in its place a detailed methodology for determining the number of rooms has been substituted.

- Chapter 490, NYS Laws of 2003

NONPROFIT'S REALTY EXEMPTION CONTINUED DESPITE LEASE TO MUNICIPALITY

Otherwise exempt real property owned by a nonprofit organization will remain fully exempt notwithstanding that part of it is leased to a municipal corporation, provided the municipality would be exempt if it owned the property.

- Chapter 534, NYS Laws of 2003

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM EXTENDED

The City program that grants real estate tax exemptions and abatements for the improvement or construction of industrial and commercial buildings in designated areas of the City has been extended for four years. Under the extension, applications for benefits can be filed until June 30, 2007, and building permits must be issued no later than July 31, 2007. In addition to extending the program, the boundaries of the new construction exemption area in Lower Manhattan (roughly, the area below Murray Street) have been modified by excluding the World Trade Center site; this was done in order to allow greater flexibility in crafting incentives for the reconstruction of the site.

- Chapter 103, NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Local Law 48 of 2003

REALTY EXEMPTION PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SINGLE-ROOM-OCCUPANCY DWELLINGS EXTENDED

Pursuant to state legislation adopted in 2002 (Chapter 330, Laws of 2002), a local law has been enacted to extend the real property tax exemption program for the rehabilitation of multiple dwellings used for single-room occupancy. The extension authorizes benefits for eligible improvements commenced prior to December 31, 2007.

- NYC Local Law 17 of 2003

AREA ELIGIBILITY LIMITATIONS CONTINUED FOR NEW MULTIPLE DWELLING EXEMPTION PROGRAM

Pursuant to section 421-a of the State Real Property Tax Law, the City grants real estate tax exemptions to newly constructed multiple dwellings that comply with statutory requirements. Provisions of the City's Administrative Code that deny benefits for construction projects in specified sections of Manhattan, but were set to expire during 2003, have been extended until December 30, 2007.

- NYC Local Law 42 of 2003

J-51 EXEMPTION PROGRAM SUNSET DATE EXTENDED

Implementing state legislation adopted last year (Chapter 418, Laws of 2002), the City Council has extended until December 30, 2007 the time by which alteration, improvement or conversion work on existing multiple dwellings must be completed in order to qualify for J-51 real estate tax exemption and abatement benefits. In connection with certain J-51 benefits available for property receiving governmental assistance, a requirement that the property must have been conveyed by the City of New York has been eliminated.

- NYC Local Law 16 of 2003

PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST MADE ELIGIBLE FOR SMALL CLAIMS ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Real property held in trust has been made eligible for the small claims assessment review process, provided the other statutory conditions for such review are met. For purposes of the small claims provisions, the trust beneficiary will be deemed to be the owner of the property.

- Chapter 363, NYS Laws of 2003

NOTICE REQUIRED WHERE PROPERTY'S STATUS CHANGED FROM PARTIALLY TO FULLY TAXABLE

A provision of the Real Property Tax Law that requires local assessors to notify property owners of a change in a parcel's status from fully exempt to partly or fully taxable has been amended to require that notice also be given where the status is changed from partly taxable to fully taxable.

- Chapter 386, NYS Laws of 2003

BUSINESS INCOME TAXES

CERTAIN RELATED-ENTITY TRANSACTIONS TO BE DISREGARDED FOR CITY TAX PURPOSES

In conformity with New York State tax amendments, the City general and banking corporation taxes, personal income tax and unincorporated business tax have been amended to disallow deductions for certain royalty payments and interest payments made by a taxpayer to a related member or members in connection with the use of licenses, trademarks, copyrights, trade names and similar types of intangible assets. The deductions are allowed, however, if specified conditions are met. Where the deduction is not allowed, the recipient of the royalty or interest payment can exclude the payment in calculating its income subject to tax. These provisions apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2003.

- Chapter 63 (Part N) and Chapter 686 (Part M), NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Local Law 53 of 2003

FLOOR ON CORPORATE TAX OVERPAYMENT INTEREST RATE ELIMINATED

See write-up on page 12.

EXPIRING BANKING CORPORATION TAX PROVISIONS EXTENDED

Various revisions to the New York City and New York State banking corporation taxes, dating back to 1985 and periodically extended, have again been extended, this time through tax years beginning before January 1, 2005. In addition, certain transitional provisions relating to the City/State tax treatment of financial services companies in light of the enactment of the federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (which deregulated various financial services activities) have been extended to cover tax years beginning before January 1, 2004.

- Chapter 62 (Part G3), NYS Laws of 2003

REAL PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

REALTY TRANSFER TAX TREATMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST TRANSFERS CLARIFIED

The City real property transfer tax law has been amended to make it clear that where an entity that is the subject of an economic interest transfer owns assets in addition to real property or an interest therein, the consideration subject to tax will be deemed equal to the fair market value of the real property or interest therein, apportioned on the basis of the percentage of the ownership interest in the entity being transferred. In addition, the definition of the term “grantor” is amended to include the entity with an interest in real

property, thus permitting the entity to pay the transfer tax without adverse tax consequences to the actual transferors of the economic interests. These amendments apply to transfers occurring on or after May 19, 2003.

- Chapter 63 (Part C), NYS Laws of 2003

MISCELLANEOUS

NEW YORK CITY TAX AMNESTY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED

Acting under State authorizing legislation, the City Commissioner of Finance has established a three-month tax amnesty program during the period from October 20, 2003 to January 23, 2004. Under the program, taxpayers liable for any City-administered income or excise tax, but not the real property tax, can apply for amnesty; however, the liability must be for a tax period ending before January 1, 2002. Among the City taxes covered are the unincorporated business tax, the general and banking corporation taxes, the utility tax and the commercial rent tax. Eligible taxpayers that pay the taxes owed will be granted a waiver of civil and criminal penalties and a reduction in the interest otherwise due. The interest reduction is determined by subtracting from the amount of interest otherwise payable the amount of any interest calculated to the date that falls three years prior to the first day of the amnesty period. Taxpayers that received amnesty under a prior City program are not eligible for amnesty as to the same tax under the current program. In addition, a taxpayer will not be eligible for amnesty as to any liability to the extent that such liability was the subject of a Department of Finance audit pending on March 10, 2003.

In addition to the general amnesty program, a special hotel room occupancy tax amnesty is authorized for operators of hotels with fewer than 10 rooms, including “bed and breakfast” establishments and hotels operated in private residences. Such a hotel operator that registers with the Department of Finance and pays hotel taxes and interest owing for the 12-month period preceding the start of the amnesty period, is eligible for a waiver of taxes and interest owing for periods prior to such 12-month period, as well as a waiver of civil and criminal penalties.

- Chapter 63 (Part F), NYS Laws of 2003

CITY’S COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION AND EXPANSION PROGRAM SUNSET DATES EXTENDED

Under the City’s Commercial Revitalization Program (CRP), which covers Lower Manhattan, and Commercial Expansion Program (CEP), which covers Manhattan above 96th Street and the other boroughs, eligible landlords can receive real property tax abatements that are passed along to their qualifying commercial tenants in the form of lower rental costs. The eligibility period has been extended from March 31, 2004 to March 31, 2007 under the CRP, and from June 30, 2003 to June 30, 2007 under the CEP. In addition, the benefit period of the abatement has been extended from March 31, 2010

to March 31, 2013 under the CRP, and from June 30, 2009 to June 30, 2013 under the CEP. Requirements of these abatement programs concerning expenditures for improvements to common areas of an eligible building have been amended to permit such expenditures to qualify under the law where the improvement work is completed by September 30, 2007 rather than September 30, 2004 in the case of the CRP, and by December 31, 2007 rather than December 31, 2003 in the case of the CEP. In connection with the CRP's commercial rent tax reduction for Lower Manhattan tenants, the end of the period during which the special tax reduction is allowed has been extended from March 31, 2010 to March 31, 2013.

- Chapter 440, NYS Laws of 2003

EXPIRING CITY TAX AUTHORIZATIONS EXTENDED

Various state laws, some dating back to the 1970's, have enabled the City to impose or increase the rates of certain taxes, but have been subject to sunset provisions that must be extended periodically. These laws, which were set to expire at the end of 2003, have been extended until the end of 2005. The affected taxes and rates are:

- ¶ the current higher basic rate tables for the City resident personal income tax, which specify a maximum rate of 3.2%, and the 14% personal income tax surcharge. (These tables and the surcharge are, however, suspended during the time that the high-income surcharge, described in the Personal Income Tax section of this summary, is in effect; during that time the personal income tax is imposed under rate tables that combine the basic rates, the 14% surcharge and the high-income surcharge.);
- ¶ the City minimum personal income tax and the current higher minimum income tax rate of 2.85%;
- ¶ the current higher City cigarette tax rate of \$1.50 per pack;
- ¶ the special City sales tax on credit rating and credit reporting services; and
- ¶ the special City sales tax on certain personal services such as beauty, barbering, manicuring and health salon services and services sold by weight control and gym facilities
- ¶ the higher rates of the City general corporation tax, currently 8.85% on taxable income, 1.5 mills on business and investment capital, .75 mill on subsidiary capital and a \$300 fixed-dollar minimum tax.

- Chapter 63 (Parts A and H), NYS Laws of 2003

CITY INCOME AND EXCISE TAX UNDERPAYMENT INTEREST RATE INCREASED

The City income and excise tax provisions that establish a mechanism for the quarterly adjustment of the interest rate chargeable on tax underpayments have been amended to provide for an underpayment rate equal to the sum of the federal short-term rate plus five percentage points, rather than three percentage points. The new five-percentage-point add-on applies in calculating the interest payable for periods beginning on or after July 1, 2003.

- Chapter 63 (Part E), NYS Laws of 2003 and NYC Local Law 38 of 2003

FLOOR ON CORPORATE TAX OVERPAYMENT INTEREST RATE ELIMINATED

For City general and banking corporation tax purposes, the interest rate on overpayments is set quarterly under a statutory formula, but the law had provided a minimum rate of six percent (or four percent with respect to overpayments attributable to the mandatory 25 percent prepayment of estimated tax). This minimum rate has been eliminated from the rate-setting formula in calculating overpayment interest for periods beginning on or after July 1, 2003.

- NYC Local Law 39 of 2003

CITY'S ENERGY COST SAVINGS PROGRAMS EXTENDED

The sunset date for new applicants to qualify for benefits under the City's Energy Cost Savings Program (ECSP) and Lower Manhattan Energy Program (LMEP) has been extended to July 1, 2005. In addition, several amendments have been made to the ECSP provisions, including changes affecting on-site cogenerators and a per-employee limit on annual benefits for new ECSP applicants. (Under these programs, the energy suppliers that offer reduced energy bills to eligible businesses are reimbursed for their foregone revenues by means of credits against their City utility taxes.)

- Chapter 107, NYS Laws of 2003

CITY SHERIFF FEES INCREASED

The fee payable to a sheriff (including the City Sheriff's office in the Department of Finance) for serving a summons, subpoena or civil process has been increased from \$10 to \$15. The fee for serving or executing an order of arrest or other mandate has been increased from \$30 to \$45. The fee increases are effective February 24, 2003.

- Chapter 11, NYS Laws of 2003

CITY REGISTER MADE COLLECTION AGENT FOR ESTIMATED TAX PAYABLE ON NONRESIDENTS' SALES OF NEW YORK REALTY

State budget legislation adopted in 2003 requires nonresidents who sell New York real estate at a profit to pay estimated state personal income tax on the gain at the time of the sale. An amendment to the original legislation requires that the estimated tax be paid to the local recording officer—the City Register in the boroughs of The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan—as agent for the state tax department. The deed for such a sale will not be accepted for recording unless accompanied by a state-prescribed form showing the estimated tax due and payment of the amount shown.

- Chapter 686 (Part P), NYS Laws of 2003

HANDICAPPED PARKING FINE EXTENDED TO PARKING IN HANDICAPPED PARKING ACCESS ISLE

The Vehicle and Traffic Law provision that prohibits and imposes fines for unauthorized parking in handicapped parking spaces has been extended to cover parking in handicapped parking access aisles. The amendment takes effect January 1, 2004

- Chapter 613, NYS Laws of 2003