

NYPIRG Straphangers Campaign
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STATEMENT ON PAYROLL TAX

(February 8, 2010)

Governor Paterson's proposed changes to the MTA payroll tax are a mixed bag.

On the positive side, they are estimated to raise more than \$200 million for the cash-starved agency.

On the hand, for the first time under the changes, the payroll tax would be "graduated" with the city rate triple that of the subways. Currently, other MTA taxes fall equally in the downstate 12 county region, such as the sales tax and corporate franchise tax.

The Straphangers Campaign feels that any change increasing revenues in the payroll tax should be devoted to stopping proposed service cuts. They should also be accompanied with new State and City appropriations sufficient to save student MetroCards.

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