



## Go for 'real money' savings in county

February 12, 2010

Re "Lawmakers must end delay," Tuesday editorial:

I am writing to clarify the position of the Westchester County Association, as noted in the above-referenced editorial about a pending proposal to have nonunion county managers contribute toward the cost of their health insurance. As you state correctly, the WCA believes that the Board of Legislators should act quickly and support County Executive Rob Astorino's call for a 15 percent pay-in for these employees; no further study should be required on this matter. The WCA, however, applauds Board Chairman Ken Jenkin's decision to look at the overall health-insurance picture as a way to find significant savings; that is a separate issue.

Our members have been a leading voice in the call to reduce the burden to taxpayers and we look forward to lending any assistance we can to Chairman Jenkins as he and the board look into ways to save the taxpayers of Westchester real money. As an interim step, however, there is no reason not to implement the county executive's proposal and continue the much needed study of the overall cost to taxpayers for the cost of health insurance for county employees.

**William M. Mooney Jr.**

The writer is president, the Westchester County Association.