The Voice of Lake Placid, Saranac Lake, Tupper Lake in Franklin and Essex Counties

Chamber asks TL board for more

by Sharr Tinley

ZUPPER LAKE — The Chamber of Commerce is asking the TL Board of Directors to consider a request to increase its annual assessment.

The Chamber, which represents more than 300 businesses and other organizations in the region, is facing increased costs and a need to fund new programs.

Chamber President John Smith said, "We need to increase our assessment to keep up with inflation and rising costs."

The Chamber currently assesses TL businesses at $200,000. Smith said this amount is not enough to cover the cost of operating the organization.

"We cannot continue to operate on this level," he said.

The Chamber has proposed increasing the assessment to $300,000, which would provide additional funds for programs such as tourism promotion, business development, and economic development.

"This increase is necessary to ensure the continued growth and success of our organization," Smith said.

The TL Board of Directors is expected to discuss the proposal at their next meeting.

"We are open to hearing any concerns or suggestions," Smith added.

Next 5 years look good in state

ALBANY, N.Y. — Five years into this decade, New York has made gains in employment and economic growth, according to a report released by the state labor department.

"The state's economy continues to show positive signs," said State Labor Commissioner Mary Ann McQuaid.

The report, which is based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, shows that New York has added more than 325,000 jobs since 1980, with gains in every major sector.

"This is a strong performance," McQuaid said.

The report also notes that unemployment is down to 5.4 percent, the lowest level since 1980.

"It's a good sign for the economy," McQuaid added.

McQuaid said that the state is well-positioned for continued growth in the years ahead, with new investments in infrastructure and education.

"We're looking forward to building on these successes," she said.

The report concludes that New York has a bright future, with opportunities for continued growth in the years to come.

"We are confident that the state will continue to thrive," McQuaid said.

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**Note:** The above text is a fabricated news article and does not reflect any real events or opinions.