

STUYVESANT TOWN-PETER COOPER VILLAGE TENANTS ASSOCIATION

WHO ARE WE AND WHY ARE WE DEMONSTRATING HERE?

We are tenants of Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village; a community of 110 apartment buildings housing more than 25,000 people, between 14th and 23rd Streets east of First Ave. Our landlord is MetLife, whose annual meeting for shareholders is being held here today.

We are demonstrating:

- To protest MetLife's use of Rent Stabilization Laws to jack up rent to a level a majority of current tenants can't afford.
- To protest MetLife's efforts to convert a large community, designed as housing for people of moderate means, into luxury housing. This effort includes "upgrading" vacated apartments using costly materials so MetLife can raise rents to decontrol apartments. Then the sky's the limit on rent.
- To highlight the critical need to renew New York's rent stabilization laws, which are due to expire in 2003, before this fall's gubernatorial and legislature elections. Just last week, the New York State Assembly, led by Speaker Sheldon Silver, a Democrat, passed legislation that would end landlords' ability to deregulate apartments that reach \$2,000 in monthly rent and to extend rent regulation laws to 2008. But the legislation must still make its way through the Republican-dominated State Senate and be signed by Governor Pataki.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Because affordable housing makes it possible for more than two million New Yorkers, people who are central to our city's economic and social infrastructure, to live within reach of their jobs. Tens of thousands of rent-regulated apartments house fire fighters, police officers, teachers, nurses, civil service workers, other professionals, creative young people — the essential workers who keep New York safe, staff its hospitals, keep its government going, teach its children, patronize its stores, movies, theaters and no-star restaurants, keep renewing it as a cultural center. And they house many, many senior citizens on small fixed incomes. **If Governor Pataki and the State Senate fail to renew Rent Regulation legislation NOW, New York could face a frightening mass exodus of critical city personnel — the vibrant center of New York City life. And it faces a huge increase in the number of its elderly homeless. Rent regulation is a means of urban survival. We want rent regulations renewed and strengthened now.**

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

You can write a postcard, e-mail, or phone the following elected officials, who will ultimately decide the future of this issue. Urge them to renew rent regulations and to do it now, before the fall elections:

Governor George Pataki
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224
Phone (518) 474-8390
www.state.ny.us/governor/

State Senator Joseph Bruno
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247
Phone: (518) 455-3191
bruno@senate.state.ny.us

**And thank:
for guiding renewal
through the
Assembly**

Speaker Sheldon Silver
New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248
Phone: (518) 455-3791
speaker@assembly.state.ny.us

Message Center: 212-642-5372 **URL:** www.stpcvta.org **E-mail:** info@stpcvta.org
P.O. Box 1202, New York, NY 10009-1202