Rabbi: Let Taxpayers Earmark \$

Rabbi Philip Goldberg, Jewish chaplain at Willowbrook State School on Staten Island, said yesterday that the state should let taxpayers vote funds to support state institutions.

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The chaplain suggested a space on state tax returns in which taxpayers could designate amounts for use for the mentally ill.

Goldberg conceded, though, that money for attendants wouldn't solve the understaffing problem at Willowbrook.

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He said the school must have more room. He added that he had been assured by "an unimpeachable source" that the school population, now 5,200, would be reduced by 1,000 "as soon as possible."

Goldberg was a witness before the Richmond chapter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, which is investigating the school.