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THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY



SENATOR TODD KAMINSKY
9TH SENATE DISTRICT

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES:

ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE
CODES
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
FINANCE
HEALTH
TRANSPORTATION
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY &
MILITARY AFFAIRS

Dear Colleague,

Please join me in working toward immediately decoupling state aid from teacher evaluations before the end of this year's legislative session. With only five days left, the time to work together and act is now.

Action is needed to protect crucial state funding for schools from each of the districts that we represent. Linking essential school funding with the implementation of a teacher evaluation system which has been universally discredited and rushed makes little sense. Moreover, evidence demonstrates that many schools are having difficulty meeting the Albany-mandated criteria, raising deep concerns that the impending deadline will negatively impact public students. So far, only 121 out of the over 700 school districts in the state have submitted evaluation plans.

Our children's education is too important for partisan politics. That is why I urge you to join me in doing the right thing for our children, families and schools by signing on to my letter urging Majority Leader Flanagan to bring Senate Bill S.7632 to the floor for a vote. By putting partisanship aside and working together we can ensure all of New York's public school districts receive the state funds they were promised.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Kaminsky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Senator Todd Kaminsky



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June 8, 2016

Honorable John Flanagan
Temporary President, New York State Senate
Room 330, State Capitol
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Senator Flanagan:

As you know, hundreds of school districts, and thousands of our students stand to lose millions of dollars of essential state aid if teacher evaluation plans are not submitted to the State Education Department by September 1 of this year. This Albany mandate puts critical school funding in jeopardy and perpetuates a wrong-headed evaluation system that parents, teachers and students overwhelmingly want changed.

So far, only 121 out of the over 700 school districts in the state have submitted new evaluation plans. As students are returning to classes following their summer breaks, hundreds of school districts throughout New York State will face severe funding shortfalls. To address this crisis, I have advanced legislation to delink this essential state education aid with the implementation of a new teacher evaluation policy.

The common sense proposal, Senate Bill S.7632, will ensure that every New York school district receives the state aid that it has been promised, without being required to implement a controversial, untested evaluation system. This bill will help schools in every single Senate District, and it should not be seen as a partisan initiative, but rather a proposal that will help all New York students.

This legislation already has significant support and its passage would be assured if it is brought to the Senate floor for a vote. Therefore, I urge you to bring this bill for a vote immediately. The students of New York State deserve the state aid they have been promised, and my legislation will ensure they receive it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Todd Kaminsky'.

Senator Todd Kaminsky

Senator Joseph Addabbo

Senator George A. Amedore, Jr.

Senator John J. Bonacic

Senator Neil Breslin

Senator Leroy Comrie

Senator John DeFrancisco

Senator Martin Malavé Dilan

Senator Hugh Farley

Senator Richard Funke

Senator Michael Gianaris

Senator Joseph Griffo

Senator Kemp Hannon

Senator Fred Akshar

Senator Tony Avella

Senator Philip M. Boyle

Senator David Carlucci

Senator Thomas Croci

Senator Ruben Diaz

Senator Adriano Espaillat

Senator Simcha Felder

Senator Patrick Gallivan

Senator Martin J. Golden

Senator Jesse Hamilton

Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson

Senator Brad Hoylman

Senator Jeffrey D. Klein

Senator Andrew Lanza

Senator George Latimer

Senator Betty Little

Senator Kathleen A. Marchione

Senator Velmanette Montgomery

Senator Michael Nozzolio

Senator Robert G. Ort

Senator Kevin Parker

Senator Bill Perkins

Senator Tim Kennedy

Senator Liz Krueger

Senator William J. Larkin, Jr.

Senator Kenneth P. LaValle

Senator Carl L. Marcellino

Senator Jack M. Martins

Senator Terrence P. Murphy

Senator Tom O'Mara

Senator Marc Panepinto

Senator José Peralta

Senator Roxanne Persaud

Senator Michael H. Ranzenhofer

Senator Gustavo Rivera

Senator James Sanders

Senator Susan J. Serino

Senator James Seward

Senator Toby-Ann Stavisky

Senator David J. Valesky

Senator Catharine Young

Senator Patty Ritchie

Senator Joseph Robach

Senator Diane Savino

Senator Jose Serrano

Senator Daniel Squadron

Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Senator Michael Venditto