



LEGISLATIVE CONTACT INFORMATION

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Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner (D-Round Lake) and Senator Patrick Gallivan (R-Elma) have introduced bi-partisan legislation (Assembly Bill A.2271 & Senate Bill S.2743) that would completely put an immediate end to the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) in 2015-16 and thereafter and provide school districts with the full amount of state aid they are legally allowed to receive.

This is BIG news because - as you know all too well - the GEA has unjustly deducted over \$9 billion in badly needed state aid since 2010-11. If these bills become law the \$1 billion remaining in GEA that would have been withheld will be fully restored to your state aid this year.

A big help in getting this vital legislation passed will be to get as many members of both the Assembly and the Senate - **OF BOTH PARTIES**

- To sign on as co-sponsors of the bill.

To do this **WE NEED YOU TO SEND A LETTER OR EMAIL OR CALL (...or all three!) YOUR ASSEMBLY MEMBER AND SENATOR AND URGE THEM TO BECOME A CO-SPONSOR OF ASSEMBLY BILL A.2271 or SENATE BILL S.2743 AND TO WORK FOR THE BILL'S PASSAGE IN THEIR HOUSE.**

Tell your legislators the stories of how GEA has hurt your children and schools through the elimination of jobs and programs. Remember, if our legislators hear from MANY OF US the chances are better they will pay attention to this issue and do something about it.

A sample letter for you to send follows.

SAMPLE LETTER

February 2015

Dear Assembly Member/Senator _____:

Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner and Senator Patrick Gallivan introduced bi-partisan legislation in their respective houses that will fully end the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) for 2015-2016 and thereafter. The respective bill numbers are A.2271 and S.2743. Both Assemblywoman Woerner and Senator Gallivan are seeking co-sponsors of their bills from both sides of the aisle. Therefore, I am contacting you to strongly urge you to sign on as a co-sponsor of the bill in your House.

I am making this direct request and appeal to you because the GEA has been devastating to the students of the Chittenango Central School District since it was introduced in 2010-2011. Over this time we have had to cut both staff and programs, and that has significantly eroded the educational opportunities of our children.

(Consider adding some brief, but specific ways that GEA has had a difficult impact on your students and district. For example, "our district is no longer able to offer _____ programs".)

As the budget negotiations play out in Albany, we call on you to affirm your support of this important bi-partisan effort and help move it along to a successful conclusion, so that our children may receive the educational opportunities they deserve.

Thank you.

Sincerely,