



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 7, 2011

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Leaders' agreement promises better budget outlook for schools

The agreements announced by Governor Cuomo and legislative leaders yesterday improve the budget outlook for the state's public schools.

The Governor is right – to close the state's projected budget deficit for next year entirely through cuts would impose too much damage on essential services, including learning opportunities for schoolchildren.

Over the past three years, state and school leaders have faced tough challenges to try and balance needs and resources, in our case, to match what students need with what taxpayers can afford.

Especially for the state's poorest communities, another round of steep education aid cuts would be devastating.

Governor Cuomo has demonstrated an impressive capacity for leadership and we are grateful for his efforts now.

We are also grateful to Speaker Silver for his persistent advocacy of revenues to fund schools and to Senate Leader Skelos for his unwavering support for school funding and essential mandate relief.

Robert J. Reidy, Jr.
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