

# No New Mandates!



## NOW IS THE TIME

**YOU KNOW THE PROBLEM:** Year after year the end of the legislative session brings proposals for new and unfunded mandates. After years of reduced funding, our schools and local governments are just beginning to recover the programs our students need and the services our communities expect. With local school and municipal budgets already set, any new mandates would displace programs already promised for next year. Many of these mandate proposals would be good ideas, if not for their disruptive, cumulative effect. If the state believes these ideas are important enough to enact into law, they should be important enough for the state to pay their cost.

**WE'VE SET THE STAGE:** The **No New Mandates!** campaign is already in high gear, just waiting for you to join in! Your advocacy team has already sent letters to legislators and the governor. We've educated the media about the problem, appeared on TV and radio and sent letters to the editor of the state's major newspapers. We've held meetings with our state leaders and formed a coalition of business, taxpayer, municipal and educational organizations to help make our case. We've prepared all of the online materials you'll need to contact your legislators, so you only need to lift a finger to help!

**NOW IT'S YOUR TURN:** Having thousands of constituents contact their legislators is the last piece of the puzzle. Legislators were elected to do things better, so avoiding initiating new mandates is a foreign concept to them. When you click on the link below, you'll find a sample letter that explains to legislators why 2013 must be the year of **No New Mandates!** Just click, fill in whether you are a school official, business person, community member, locally elected official, teacher or student. Click on the legislative directory to see your legislator's email address, then copy the letter into your email and send! It couldn't be easier and the message couldn't be more powerful. One last thing...**forward this email to everyone on your personal email list.** The sample letter is written so that anyone can use it and we want everyone in the community to join in! Help protect your local school programs and municipal services by making sure this year, we have **No New Mandates!**

Send your email [message to legislators](#).

