



MEMORANDUM OF CONCERN

Mandate Relief

In relation to the 2012 – 2013 Executive Education Budget

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The New York State Council of School Superintendents is CONCERNED about mandate relief, and urges attention

Mandate relief must be an integral aspect of all budget and legislative discussions and is necessary for the continued stability and health of our educational system. While we can attempt to prohibit future unfunded mandates, local governments need immediate help with currently imposed unfunded mandates.

We look forward to working with our executive and legislative leaders to ensure real, meaningful mandate reform and urge consideration of the following mandate relief proposals.

We are also hopeful that the Mandate Relief Council will bring significant change to this process.

Support the Let NY Work Agenda

An unlikely alliance of business, community and municipal partners has put forth the Let NY Work Agenda: A Common Agenda for the Common Good, and supports the following concepts:

- (1) make the pension system affordable by establishing Tier VI giving employees a choice of a defined benefit or defined contribution plan;
- (2) redefine compulsory arbitration;
- (3) amend the Triborough Law by freezing salary step increases when a contract expires;
- (4) reduce the cost of construction on public/private projects, by amending Wicks Law and enacting scaffold reform;
- (5) establish minimum health insurance contribution percentages for public employees; and
- (6) approve no new unfunded mandates, and pass the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act (S.5379 – Martins/A.8150 – Morelle).

Annual Report Card on Mandates

Charge the Comptroller with reporting on all the mandates, funded and unfunded, enacted and repealed into law each year.