

NCATA LEGISLATIVE ALERT

April 13, 2011

Dear Members,

The House Education Appropriations subcommittee presented their initial version of the education cuts to public schools late yesterday afternoon.

The House budget proposal cuts \$258 million from the Teacher Assistant Funding allotment, which is approximately 50 percent. Funding for 8,700 teacher assistant positions would be eliminated under this plan. The intent is to provide enough state funding to fund all kindergarten through first grade teacher assistants and allow the local school systems the flexibility to do what they need with the \$258 million in TA funding that would remain. Teacher assistants could still be placed in other grade levels but would only be funded for K and 1.

The present plan is for the House Education Appropriations Subcommittee to take amendments next week to their PROPOSED public schools budget. This is NOT the final budget. The budget has not been finalized.

Please call and e-mail the House and Senate Education Appropriations Committee members and address this devastating cut to our children's education. Call and e-mail this week!

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

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Senate Appropriations on Education / Higher Education

Co-Chairman Sen. Tom Apodaca, email: Tom.Apodaca@ncleg.net, 919-733-5745
Co-Chairman Sen. Jean Preston, email: Jean.Preston@ncleg.net, 919- 733-5706

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Members Sen. Charlie S. Dannelly, email Charlie.Dannelly@ncleg.net, 919-733-5955
Sen. Linda Garrou, email Linda.Garrou@ncleg.net, 919-733-5620
Sen. Bob Rucho, email Bob.Rucho@ncleg.net, 919-733-5655
Sen. Dan Soucek, email Dan.Soucek@ncleg.net, 919-733-5742

"We all find ourselves in situations that at times seem hopeless. And, we all have the choice to do nothing or take action." ~ *Catherine Pulsifer*

TAKE ACTION!!

Sincerely,
Melinda

Melinda K. Zarate
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North Carolina Association of Teacher Assistants
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