

NCATA Legislative Alert

February 22, 2011

Dear NCATA Members,

While Governor Perdue's budget proposal and support of teachers and teacher assistants was positive and welcomed news, we all need to remember that the budget process is very long and involved. The Governor's budget PROPOSAL is just one step. It is likely that the discretionary cut will be on the table for consideration and what that means is every LEA (school system) can cut whom they want and teacher assistants may be very vulnerable this year.

The Governor did NOT eliminate the \$826 million from the temporary tax in her proposal and the Republicans have been very adamant that they will get rid of it. This will mean cuts will be coming from the legislature in their proposal.

Celebrations at this point are premature. We need to remain positive but stay ready for action! The House will now prepare their budget proposal. We hope to see their funding targets later this week.

Please keep us updated on the rumors at the grass roots in your local districts! As always, NCATA will keep you informed of the state legislative news most important to teacher assistants!

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Melinda

Melinda K. Zarate
NCATA Legislative Chair