RCFA In Action *What You Can Do To Protect Your Profession*

<u>RIGHT NOW</u>: Visit mac.nysut.org & text NYSUT to 38470 to sign up for texts/emails that alert you to Member Action Campaigns that make it easy to make your voice heard! And yes, there's an App for that (iPhone & Android).

Call Today. Call Often. Call your elected officials. It's not that hard. NYSUT even has a script. You can use it verbatim, as a guideline, or ignore it altogether and express your own ideas about how WRONG Governor Cuomo's Budget Proposal is for education! Heck, you can just say that!! Find your district, the phone number to home page of mac.nysut.org. You can find a complete district map at nysenate.gov

Ongoing: Get Connected

- Share MAC campaigns through social media & encourage your friends/followers to action
- Talk to your family and neighbors about what's wrong with Governor Cuomo's proposal (we've even got talking points on the back of this sheet to make it easier to have the conversation)
- Be vocal: Express your concerns about the state of education and be an advocate for your profession and colleagues

When the RCFA Calls, STAND UP!

Your building reps will be organizing "call centers" so that we can reach out to legislators in solidarity. **Participate.**

Look out for letter-writing events at the RCFA office. **Participate.**

Your Union is Nothing Without You!

RCFA In Action *Start the Conversation*

When talking to family, friends & neighbors, let them know that Governor Cuomo's budget will:

- Strip funding from local districts
- Strip autonomy from local districts and shift power to Albany
- Overburden our children with tests he's even trying to *mandate* field tests in our schools so that for-profit businesses can test their products on our children
- Siphon \$\$ away from community-based public schools and into the hands of charter and private schools
- Create a very low threshold to place our schools and local districts into the hands of receiverships

Then...ENCOURAGE THEM TO ACTION!

When calling your state senator (this is the NYSUT script)...

I am a constituent of Senator _____ and I am calling to deliver an important message.

As a (parent/teacher/educator) in a public school, I want to express my unhappiness with the Governor's proposals for public education. These proposals reflect a "bigfoot" approach – an attempt to centralize power over public education in Albany and strip away local control from parents and their local, democratically elected school boards.

His unfair attack on teachers is a distraction from what our students need.

Can we count on Senator ______ to defend and fight for public education?

In addition to the concerns of the general public, fellow education professionals will also be interested to know that Governor Cuomo's budget will:

- Make their livelihood dependent on the "mystery box" of state tests 50% of their evaluation
- Gut tenure protections
- Make the 3020a process a sham
- Make charter school growth at the demise of public schools the end-game agenda

Then...ENCOURAGE THEM TO ACTION!

Partial List of State Senators & Contact Information (nysenate.gov for complete list)

Senatorial District 1

LaValle, Kenneth P. 631-473-1461 <u>lavalle@nysenate.gov</u> 28 North Country Rd Suite 203, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766

<u>Senatorial District 2</u> Flanagan, John J. 631-361-2154 <u>flanagan@nysenate.gov</u> 260 Middle Country Road, Suite 102, Smithtown, NY 11787

<u>Senatorial District 3</u> Croci, Thomas D. 631-360-3356 <u>croci@nysenate.gov</u>

<u>Senatorial District 4</u> Boyle, Philip M. 631-665-2311 <u>pboyle@nysenate.gov</u> 69 West Main St., Suite B, Bay Shore, NY 11706

<u>Senatorial District 5</u> Marcellino, Carl L. 516-922-1811 <u>marcelli@nysenate.gov</u> 250 Townsend Square, 99-111 South Street, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

<u>Senatorial District 8</u> Venditto, Michael 516-882-0630 <u>venditto@nysenate.gov</u> 5550 Merrick Road, Suite 205, Massapequa, NY 11758

REACH OUT DIRECTLY TO GOVERNOR CUOMO'S SUFFOLK REP:

Scott Martella; Suffolk County Representative; Office of the Governor; Hon. Andrew Cuomo; 250 Veterans Memorial Hwy; Hauppauge, NY 11788; 631-952-6583; scott.martella@exec.ny.gov