Dear Legislators:

I'm terribly concerned about the destructive approach you are taking to solve the state budget problem.

While I understand the need to tighten the belt, I don't believe that cutting funding for education in our State will help solve the problem. In fact it will create further social problems resulting from poor education such as crime, domestic violence, and poor health, both individual and of the community. The cost of these problems will be exponentially greater in health care costs, public safety and jails, than the savings attempted with the cuts you are proposing.

Quality Education is an investment that can yield the greatest return to our state, both in the short and the long term. Public education has been underfunded for too many years. Last year you promised additional funding for education when you passed HB 278. Please keep your promise and maintain the BSA unchanged.

It is time to think creatively and find additional funding for the state, rather than focusing on simply cutting the budget without considering the long-term consequences of this action.

Fund education as you promised last year!

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