

Your Address

Date:

The Honorable Brian Foley
New York State Senate
New York State Office Building, Rm. 2A1
250 Veterans Memorial Highway
Hauppauge, NY 11788

Dear Mr. Foley:

The message that I seek to ask you to deliver to your fellow lawmakers in Albany is clear and simple. We are **one island with one voice**. As a taxpayer, and constituent who resides in your Senate district, I ask you to seek a redistribution of resources that provides greater equity across the state and affords property owners such as myself much needed relief.

I recognize that my school district must be prudent and act responsibly in terms of how budgets are crafted, now and in the future. I also recognize that there has been a sizeable imbalance with respect to how education is funded and supported throughout our state.

Simply put, Long Island is over-dependent on property taxes because State Aid funds only 25% of the cost of education on Long Island while supporting 46% in New York City and 45% in the rest of the state outside of New York City and Long Island (2008-09). As a result, property taxes fund 70% of the cost of education on Long Island and 50% in the rest of the state.

In the upcoming budget deliberations with the governor and legislature I ask that you work with **all** of your counterparts – both Democrats and Republicans – throughout Long Island to speak with **one voice** when it comes to supporting our regional needs in these difficult economic/financial times.

I eagerly look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely,