

Immediate Call to Action

Attention PGCEA Members: Your response is needed immediately. The Senate Budget and Taxation Committee has passed a version of the state budget that would be extremely damaging to Prince George's County. Their version must go before the full Senate for a vote soon. Let our senators know **TODAY** that we object to this version of the budget.

The House of Delegates has passed their version of the budget through the full house. The House budget is favorable to Prince George's County as it is very similar to the Governor's plan for education. It protects most for the funding formulas, such as 100% funding of the Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) and others that protect our county. On the other hand, the Senate version would cut the GCEI to 60% and reduce several other critical education formulas that are important to us.

We cannot allow this to happen without letting our senators from Prince George's County know our position on this. We need you to e-mail or call or both as soon as possible to let them know to just say **NO** to the Senate version and support the House version.

For the most part, our senators have always been very strong supporters of education and of PGCEA, so our approach is one of information—it is not a hostile interaction. The following are some very brief talking points that can be used, but we encourage you to add any information about how future cuts to the budget would damage your instruction and your ability to do your job.

- Please support the House version of the state budget.
- The Senate version of the state budget will damage Prince George's County.
- The Senate version of the budget will cut our schools another \$22 million.
- Fully fund the GCEI—no cuts.
- Do not reduce the non-public placement formula from the Governor's proposal.
- Do not reduce the supplemental grant.
- Any additional cuts to the county would literally **STOP** our academic progress in its tracks.
- Continued cuts to education will move the state from its status as being the #1 education system in the nation.

IN THE SPACE BELOW WE HAVE ADDED THE SENATORS' CONTACT INFORMATION E-MAILS AND PHONE NUMBERS.

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