

The Fight For Education Jobs Funding Goes on!!!

House Approves EduJobs Bill. There is still a chance to undo the Bully's Draconian cuts to Education and Bring Back our Colleagues!!!

I have been in education for 26 years. For 16 years I taught special education. The last ten years I have been an elementary and middle school counselor. 800 people in our district received letters stating that we may have our salaries reduced by cutting our jobs to 10 months – including central office staff, teachers, counselors, principals, assistant principals, bookkeepers, secretaries, custodians, and bus drivers. These cutbacks would mean no summer school, no schedules ready for the first day of school, and lots of employees unable to pay their rent/mortgage, car payments, bills, and feed their children. I love education. I have enjoyed every minute of the last 26 years, but right now I feel like gum on the bottom of someone's shoe. – MaryAnn from Virginia

Our school system has been hit hard. Starting in the fall, only about half the students who need help from literacy teachers will be served; third graders who must take the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System Test will no longer receive literacy help. Our media teachers and librarians will also be cut. I strongly urge every member of Congress to think long and hard about the losses schools will face if the education jobs fund bill does not pass. Most teachers I know teach because they love the children, they love seeing them learn, and they take their jobs very seriously. I know this is why I have been a teacher for nearly 30 years now. – Sue from Massachusetts

YOU DID IT! EDUCATION JOBS VICTORY IN THE HOUSE! ON TO THE SENATE!!

On July 1, the House of Representatives passed legislation by a vote of 239-182 that will save over 100,000 education jobs like those of Sue and MaryAnn, and ensure that students have the supports necessary to succeed. Thank you to everyone who helped to achieve this important win. Your calls, emails, stories, and visits to Washington, DC delivered this victory for your colleagues across the nation.

See how your Representative voted. Thank the House for passing the jobs bill.

The victory in the House is only the first step in our campaign to save education jobs across the country. We must now shift our focus to the Senate. Congress

has returned from the July 4th recess, and there are only a few weeks before they adjourn again for August. The Senate must pass an education jobs fund before the August recess.

- **TAKE ACTION TODAY! Keep the e-mails and calls coming! Ask colleagues, friends, and family to join this fight:** •
- **Continue to e-mail your Senators.** Tell them to follow the House in passing an immediate \$10 billion education jobs package. Go to www.nea.org; click on the Legislative Action Center; fill in your zip code and click GO; compose your message from the language provided or write your own; send. *It's that simple and takes just a minute or two.*
- **You can still call 1-866-608-6355 to contact your Senators.** You will hear talking points and will be connected to the United States Capitol Switchboard – ask for one of your Senators. Tell your Senator that public education faces a budget catastrophe and that he/she should support immediate passage of a \$10 billion education jobs fund. Remember to call back to speak with your other Senator.
- **Share your story.** Is your school seeing increased class sizes? Shorter school weeks? Programs cut or eliminated? Tell us what is happening in your school and how it will impact your students.

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Keep up the pressure!!!

NEA Government Relations
202-822-7300
<http://www.nea.org/lac>



1201 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

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