

Want economic success and upward mobility for Pennsylvanians? Support Pennsylvania's students!

As the state budget for the upcoming fiscal year moves toward passage in the coming days, we recognize that many lawmakers want to provide business tax relief, and we know there is also strong bi-partisan support for a significant and essential increase in funding for public schools. Here's what we know with three weeks remaining before the deadline to finalize the state budget:

- After the last 10 years, when mandated cost increases for public schools' ongoing operations have outpaced state funding increases by \$3.7 billion, the state is in a strong financial position to begin fixing this dramatic imbalance.
- It has been reported that some lawmakers would like to place some of the revenue in PA's Rainy Day Fund to protect against a future downturn. Even if they do, the state should still have as much as \$10 billion more on hand.
- It has also been reported that many legislators also favor a major cut in the state's corporate net income tax this year. They contend that it will, "position Pennsylvanians for economic success and upward mobility for generations to come."
- The problem: relieving corporations of a state tax burden on one hand without making substantial investments in public schools means that companies will face property tax increases that could be larger than the relief intended by the state corporate tax cut. And without investments in education, Pennsylvania businesses will continue to face expensive and profit-killing labor shortages.

To strengthen Pennsylvania for the future, a game-changing investment in Pennsylvania students is what we need. There should be no business tax cuts without a boost in school funding of at least \$1.75 billion this year.

We should implore our lawmakers to make this crucial investment in our children and our communities.

CLOSE PENNSYLVANIA'S **\$4.6B** PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING GAP

Property taxes are rising, and public schools are struggling.

A major down payment in the FY 2022-23 budget is an urgent necessity.