



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

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Committees:

House Ways and Means
Telecommunications, Utilities
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Veterans and Federal Affairs

July 20th, 2015

The Honorable Robert A. DeLeo
Speaker of the House of Representatives
State House Room 356
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Speaker DeLeo,

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I am, respectfully, requesting that the House of Representatives address his Excellency, Governor Charlie Baker's, FY16 Budget veto, relative to the issue of Kindergarten Expansion Grants.

Specifically, I am requesting that we initiate a veto override of line-item 7030-1002 at \$18,589,713. As you are aware, this is the sum proposed in the House version of the FY16 Budget. Furthermore, this is the sum agreed upon by the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Conference Committee. In the aftermath of Governor Baker's 9c cuts, the Full-Day Kindergarten program was level-funded by the Budget Conference Committee at the Fiscal Year 2015 level. Governor Baker's veto, reduced the 2016 Budget Conference Committee's funding-level for this line-item: down to \$1,000,000.

Due to these instrumental Full-Day Kindergarten grants, the percentage of children in the Commonwealth, attending Full-Day Kindergarten, has risen from twenty-nine percent to eighty-eight percent! In short, this is a burgeoning program that will reap enormous dividends in the development of our youngest school-aged children, within the Commonwealth. Under your leadership, Mr. Speaker, the sum of \$18,589,713, that the House of Representatives has proposed is the figure for line-item 7030-1002 that should prevail, in the final analysis. Accordingly, the initiation of a, timely, override of the gubernatorial veto of line-item 7030-1002 will ensure that Full-Day Kindergarten continues to both expand and flourish in the Commonwealth.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please, do not hesitate to contact me, if you have further questions

Sincerely,

Walter F. Timilty

Walter F. Timilty
State Representative
7th Norfolk District

Thank you!