

January 24, 2024

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

We have been informed that the Long Beach City School District has been identified in your recent budget proposal as a district slated to receive a cut in Foundation Aid of over \$4.3 million dollars next year. As a resident of the district and a school parent, I cannot emphasize enough how devastating that cut will be to our school community, nearly 30% of whom live below NYS poverty thresholds. Our district has worked hard to provide a strong educational program for students, while remaining below the State property tax cap. A cut of this magnitude in one year is a nearly insurmountable obstacle for our district to overcome.

We are writing to urge you to reconsider this proposal, to restore the “hold harmless” provision, or at least to phase the decrease in aid over a longer period of time.

Sincerely,