

Date

Dear [Legislator's Name],

I am writing to express my deep concern over the continued negative impact of New Jersey's current school funding formula on districts like Tabernacle Township. As a [parent/teacher/resident/taxpayer], I have witnessed firsthand how our district has been forced to make difficult decisions, including cutting staff and increasing the local tax levy beyond the 2% cap, just to sustain essential educational services.

Over the past several years, Tabernacle, like many other S2 districts, has faced significant reductions in state aid, creating an unsustainable financial burden on local taxpayers while simultaneously jeopardizing the quality of education for our students. These reductions have led to increased class sizes, fewer extracurricular programs, and decreased support services—all of which hinder our children's ability to receive the high-quality education they deserve.

I urge you to advocate for a revision of the state's funding formula to ensure a more equitable distribution of resources. The allocation of substantial funding increases to select school districts, while others face significant budgetary constraints necessitating facility closures, staff reductions, and program eliminations, presents a matter of inequity. A rigorous review of the funding distribution methodology is warranted, and consideration should be given to reallocating a portion of the increased funds to districts experiencing financial hardship to ensure a more EQUITABLE distribution of resources. Specifically, we need a formula that:

1. Accounts for the unique challenges faced by smaller districts like Tabernacle.
2. Prevents drastic state aid cuts that disproportionately impact certain communities.
3. Ensures that no district is forced to increase local taxes beyond reasonable limits to compensate for lost funding.

Education is the foundation of our future, and the state must uphold its responsibility to provide all students with a fair and adequate education, regardless of their district's size or location. I respectfully request your leadership in addressing this issue and working toward a more balanced and sustainable funding system.

Thank you for your time and attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to your response and to seeing meaningful changes that support all New Jersey students.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]