



LOWER HUDSON EDUCATION COALITION

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December 20, 2018

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12244

Re: S.3203A/A.2112A
Extends the effectiveness of provisions relating to BOCES intermediate districts.

Dear Governor Cuomo,

The Lower Hudson Education Coalition (LHEC) supports the above referenced legislation and urges your approval.

This legislation would provide that the total salary amount paid to BOCES district superintendents for the 2018-19 school years and for any other subsequent school year may not exceed the lesser of 6% over the salary cap of the preceding school year, or 98% of the Commissioner's salary earned in the 2018-19 school year.

Under current law, a BOCES district superintendent salary is capped at 98% of the Commissioner of Education's 2003-04 salary. This legislation would update the cap to 98% of the Commissioner's 2018-19 salary or 106% of the previous year's salary, whichever is less. It has been 15 years since the cap was updated.

District superintendents play a critical role in helping shape and implement important education policies that directly impact our students. The 37 BOCES are an important resource for students and school districts across the state. Through shared services and the consolidation of resources, BOCES help encourage efficiencies in funding, programming and administrative operations. They are a major provider of Career and Technical Education, Special Education and other vital programs and services.

It is important for BOCES to be empowered to attract and retain the highest quality district superintendents possible. The current cap hampers the ability to negotiate competitively with the district superintendents currently leading and limits the recruitment pool for new leadership.

For these reasons and more, the Lower Hudson Education Coalition supports S.7730/A.9825 and urges your immediate approval.

Sincerely,

Members of the Lower Hudson Education Coalition

Cc: Senator John DeFrancisco
Assemblymember Cathy Nolan
Alphonso David
Dan Fuller
Terry Pratt
Jamie Frank