

MANDATE CATEGORY	RECOMMENDATIONS	EXAMPLES OF SAVINGS
UNFUNDED AND UNDERFUNDED MANDATE LEGISLATION – MITIGATION & PREVENTION	<p>#1 – REQUIRE A “REVIEW” OF NEW MANDATES THAT INCLUDES A COMPREHENSIVE COST ANALYSIS AND THE DEFINITIVE FUNDING SOURCE.</p> <p>#2 – FREEZE AND REVIEW OF ALL CURRENTLY PROPOSED AND PENDING MANDATES.</p>	<p>In 2008-09, taxpayers in the eight LHCSS districts funded \$117 million of mandates; a one-third reduction of these costs would return \$39 million dollars to taxpayers and schools.</p> <p>20% relief in mandates for LHCSS districts in 2011-12 would have yielded \$1 BILLION in reduced costs.</p> <p>A sample of 6 LHCSS districts estimated that 4 years of expenses to implement Race to the Top/APPR would cost \$10 million dollars.</p> <p>A sample of 14 LHCSS districts reported a one-year savings would be over \$3.5 million dollars</p> <p>This legislation could yield between \$500 and \$800 million for districts in NYS</p> <p>A sample of 16 LHCSS districts reported an annual savings of \$1.5 million dollars</p>
TRANSPORTATION	<p>#1 – FUND OR REDUCE MILEAGE LIMITS (15 TO 5 MILES) FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION –</p> <p>#2 – ALLOW CONSOLIDATION OF SERVICES UNDER ESTABLISHED CONTRACTS</p> <p>#3 – LIMIT SP. ED. OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION WHEN FREE APPROPRIATE EDUCATION IS PROVIDED</p>	<p>TRS reserve would add to fiscal predictability</p> <p>For 2011-12, a district with 3500 students estimated a retirement fund contribution increase of \$1.5 million.</p> <p>In the average LHCSS school district, health care premium costs are projected to increase by 7.5% in 2012-13. The district will be required to contribute an approximated \$700,000 which is equivalent to almost 1% of the tax levy.</p>
FISCAL REFORM	<p>#1 – ALLOW DISTRICTS TO ESTABLISH TRS RESERVE FUND</p> <p>#2 – LEGISLATE PENSION REFORM/TRS CONTRIBUTION RESTORATION (pre-1998)</p> <p>#3 – CAP/CONTROL HEALTH CARE PREMIUM COSTS WITH A STATEWIDE PLAN AND LIMITED EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS</p>	<p>Over the past 4-5 years special education costs in NYS have grown by 40% as a result of unfunded New York State mandates - 7 billion dollars to over 10 billion dollars per year during this period.</p> <p>NYS has 204 special education mandates that exceed the federal law.</p> <p>Savings to average to large-sized districts will be in the millions while the quality of education will be uncompromised.</p>
SPECIAL EDUCATION	<p>#1 – ELIMINATE MANDATED CLASS SIZES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND RESOURCE ROOMS WHILE MAINTAINING A CONTINUUM OF SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS</p> <p>#2 – AMEND EDUCATION LAW 3602 THAT CREATES ENTITLEMENT TO SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS PARENTALLY PLACED IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS. CAP DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS WHEN COMPARABLE PROGRAMS ARE OFFERED BY THE DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE.</p> <p>#3 – ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT THAT AN INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION INCLUDES SPECIFIC ASSESSMENTS AS PRESCRIBED BY STATE REGULATION.</p> <p>#4 – AMEND THE LAW THAT SHIFTED BURDEN OF PROOF FROM PARENTS TO SCHOOLS AND THAT IS COUNTER TO THE 2007 SUPREME COURT DECISION.</p>	

Budget Gaps and Tax Cap Facts

Over the past three years...

- A sample of twenty-six (26) LHCSS districts have cut approximately **\$170 million in program and eliminated over 1400 staff, costing districts almost \$10 million in unemployment costs.**
- These same districts lost over **\$300 million dollars** in state and federal aid

It is projected that in order to meet the tax cap threshold, a sample of ## LHCSS districts have projected that they will have to reduce expenditures by \$\$\$ for the 2012-13 budget year.

The Costs of Unfunded Mandates

- There are over **150 unfunded mandates** equivalent to almost **20%** of a district's budget.
- LHCSS school district budgets totaled **\$5.7 BILLION DOLLARS** in 2011-12.
 - **20% reduction in mandates** would yield over **\$1 BILLION dollars** in reduced costs.
 - **10% reduction in mandates** would yield **\$568 million dollars** in reduced costs.
- A sample of six LHCSS Rockland school districts received less than **\$400,000** for four years of RTTT and APPR implementation. These same districts estimated that such costs during this period would reach almost **\$10 million.**
- 204 New York State mandates in special education exceed the federal IDEA law.
 - Special education costs have risen by 40% in last 5 years in New York:
 - In Westchester County, the average cost of a general education student has risen from **\$10,495 to \$13,800;**
 - In Westchester County, the average cost of a special education student has risen from **\$27,955 to \$40,000.**
- New York State special education costs have risen from **7 to 10 billion dollars** per year during this same time period.