

2015-K523

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION urging the United States Department of Education to not withhold the State of New York's funds received under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as a result of an increased number of students who did not participate in the most recent grades three through eight English language arts and mathematics state standardized assessments

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to ensure that all children in the State of New York have the opportunity to receive a high-quality, sound education; and

WHEREAS, Annual statewide assessments can provide valuable information to parents, teachers, and educators on a child's academic needs and achievements; and

WHEREAS, Recent changes to New York State's standardized assessments, and the use of such assessments in evaluating teacher and principal performance, have caused many parents to question their validity and reliability to accurately evaluate academic achievement standards and their overall educational and instructional value; and

WHEREAS, Title I, Part A funds of the ESEA provide financial assistance to local educational agencies and schools with the most disadvantaged and low-income populations to ensure that these children especially have the resources needed to meet state academic standards; and

WHEREAS, Undertaking an official action to withhold Title I, Part A funds would be detrimental to the educational opportunities of students throughout the State, particularly our most vulnerable school populations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the United States Department of Education be and hereby is respectfully memorialized by this Legislative Body to not withhold New York State's Title I, Part A funds of the ESEA; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the United States Department of Education, to the Governor of the State of New York, to the Commissioner of the State Education Department and to each member of the Congressional delegation from the State of New York.