Thursday, January 14, 2016

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Capitol Annex

Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

 First of all, thank you for your leadership and support for Kentucky students in enacting a budget that restores education funding to 2008 levels. Your wise decision to restore SEEK funding, flexible focus funds and investments in early learning programs is appreciated and will strengthen student achievement in Kentucky.

 The General Assembly’s action in 2014 to increase funding for education demonstrated a bold move toward beginning to provide the children of Kentucky with the high-quality education they deserve and taxpayers expect.

 I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to enter the 2016 legislative session with a goal of finding additional revenues to support progress of teaching and learning in our classrooms.

 Our school districts face a real danger of educational excellence put in serious jeopardy because of several years of demands for more rigorous academic achievement accompanied by reductions in state financial support to achieve that goal. This is not just about SEEK per pupil; it also impacts teacher training, afterschool programs, technological tools, safety and security of buildings and campuses.

 We fully comprehend the fiscal challenges our state and its taxpayers face. And thus we know the difficulties of decisions and choices left to our state legislators. However, we also know a simple truth:

**Our kids can’t wait!**

 We are committed to supporting legislative actions to put more money into our schools. We earnestly ask that you are your colleagues find ways to make this happen in 2016.

**Respectfully,**

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*(Signature)*

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*(Name)*

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*(Mailing Address)*

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*(City, State, Zip Code)*