



IN NEW YORK, THE TEACHERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS BACK TO WORK ACT WILL PROVIDE MORE THAN \$1.7 BILLION IN FUNDS TO SUPPORT UP TO 18,000 EDUCATOR JOBS

The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will save or create nearly 400,000 education jobs through critical investments in the education of our nation's children. Specifically, The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will invest \$30 billion to support state and local efforts to retain, rehire, and hire early childhood, elementary, and secondary educators. Facing a \$2.4 billion projected budget shortfall in 2013, cuts to state and local spending on education will place thousands of New York teacher jobs at risk. The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will provide New York with more than \$1.7 billion in additional funds that will support 18,000 education jobs, provide a jolt to the state economy, and improve the quality of education. By asking millionaires to pay their fair share, The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will grow the New York economy without adding a dime to the deficit.

New York Budget Shortfall Forced State To Slash Education Spending by 0.6 Percent. As a result of the most severe fiscal crisis since the Great Depression, New York faced a budget shortfall of \$10 billion in 2012, a staggering 17.6% of the state's General Fund. Given the dramatic reduction in state revenue, the state was forced to slash funding for educational programs and services. In New York, elementary and high schools are currently receiving 0.6% less state funding this year than in 2008. [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/17/11](#); Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [10/7/11](#)]

In New York, 13,000 Local Government Jobs Have Been Lost Since 2008, Including Many Teachers. Given New York's cuts to education programs, local school districts are forced to cut back on educational programs and services, often laying-off needed teachers and other critical staff, or raising additional revenue to cover the shortfall. As a result, local government employment fell by 13,000 in New York over the last three years, showing that teachers, police, firefighters, and other public employees faced layoffs. These unprecedented layoffs extended the recession and have slowed the recovery in New York. [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [10/7/11](#); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, accessed on [10/14/11](#)]

Democrats Helped New York Avoid an Even Worse Situation, Preventing Thousands of Potential Layoffs. Without Democratic intervention in 2010, New York school districts would have been forced to lay off as many as 16,600 teachers. Recognizing the financial difficulty that many state and local governments were experiencing, Democrats shepherded the bipartisan Education Jobs Act into law, thereby protecting 8,200 education jobs in New York. Unfortunately, thousands of teacher jobs are still at stake today. [U.S. Department of Education analysis, [8/6/10](#); National Education Association, [5/10](#)]