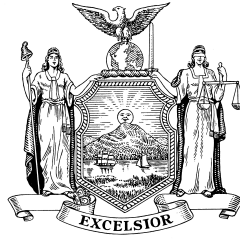


THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

John Ceretto
Assemblyman 138th District



RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Cities
COMMITTEES
Election Law
Environmental Conservation
Housing
Tourism, Parks Arts and Sports Development

August 20, 2012

Hon. Speaker Sheldon Silver
Legislative Office Building
Room 932
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Speaker Silver,

I am writing you today to express my opposition to A.10807, your legislation allowing Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) funding to be provided to illegal immigrants.

As the grandson of immigrants, I understand the importance of legal immigration laws and have firsthand knowledge of the cultural and economic benefits that immigrants have brought to our country. However, with families in my district struggling to make ends meet, who desperately could utilize this funding, I cannot support this bill. Those children should come first.

However well intentioned this legislation is, I respectfully ask you to not bring this legislation to the floor of the Assembly. TAP funding should be focused on helping those here legally. I cannot look the children and parents of my district in the eye and tell them someone here illegally received the tuition assistance they so desperately needed. I will vote no.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John D. Ceretto".

John Ceretto
Member of the Assembly
138th District