

Governor Christie's Fairness Formula "protects taxpayers and promotes fixing the education funding crisis in a way that is both responsible and smart"

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What They Are Saying:

Governor Christie's Fairness Formula "protects taxpayers and promotes fixing the education funding crisis in a way that is both responsible and smart"

Hope Township Mayor Timothy McDonough: "Responsible leadership and smart government is something we can all stand behind. The ingenuity of the Fairness Formula protects taxpayers and promotes fixing the education funding crisis in a way that is both responsible and smart." (Statement, 6/27/16)

"No family trying to build a better life for their children should have to sell their home because of an intertwined property tax and education funding structure. We are long overdue to have this conversation and drive changes for each and every family and student in New Jersey."

Brick Township Mayor John Ducey: "They're saying it's only Republicans who support it, but I'm a Democrat. The school funding is going to be allocated in a fair and even way across the state and it's going to give relief to taxpayers." (Paul Mulshine, "Chris Christie's property-tax relief plan: The 'burbs could use the bucks," Star-Ledger, 6/23/16)

Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick: "Nothing is more fair than treating students equally no matter where they live. This plan will help relieve property taxpayers throughout the state and I will fight to get the governor's plan enacted. I look forward to sponsoring it in the legislature." (Press Release, 6/21/16)

Assembly Republican Conference Leader David Rible: "I support this plan because it lowers property taxes and funds our schools equally. Funding education is a top priority and there is nothing more fair than everyone playing by the same rules. This proposal does just that." (Press Release, 6/21/16)

Assemblyman Sean Kean: "This is a significant step in the right direction for school students across the state. The Governor's fair plan assures fair funding and educational opportunity to all of our children. More spending has never improved the quality of education. While the plan promotes educational fairness, it also lowers New Jersey's highest-in-the-nation property taxes." (Press Release, 6/21/16)

Senator Mike Doherty: "The Governor is on the right track with his proposal to return billions of tax dollars to rural and suburban districts that have long been underfunded. A fairer distribution of school funding would cut thousands from most property tax bills and help make the state affordable for many struggling families." (Press Release, 6/21/16)

Assemblywoman Holly Schepisi: "The lopsided and indefensible school funding formula is largely responsible for New Jersey's infamous property taxes, but even more disturbing is the failure of the formula to effectively educate the students in districts that cost the most taxpayer dollars." (Press Release, 6/21/16)

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· “Other than a couple SDA districts, towns in Bergen and Passaic counties have carried the brunt of increasing property taxes, yet they have received the least amount of funding in the entire state. Any legislator representing these counties who does not support this fair and balanced approach is failing to represent their own constituents.”

Assembly Republican Whip Scott Rumana: “The governor’s proposed formula makes sure that each child is given the same opportunity while reducing property taxes for homeowners. It provides a better balance to school funding for suburban districts like those in the 40th legislative district that have received subpar funding for many decades.” (Press Release, 6/21/16)

· “Reforming education aid is long overdue. This plan is fair and equitable for our children and taxpayers.”

Assembly Republican Deputy Leader Anthony M. Bucco: “School funding is of major consequence to the state budget and the wallet of taxpayers. Anything we can do to make the system more equitable is in the best interest of New Jersey. Every district deserves fair funding.” (Press Release, 6/21/16)

Assemblyman Robert Auth: “This is a fair funding solution that provides every student in New Jersey the opportunity to succeed. For three decades, unreasonable school funding has failed our school children and taxpayers in every corner of the state. Spending has never produced achievement in our schools. Bringing school funding into balance will reduce taxes and improve prospects for students across the state.” (Press Release, 6/21/16)

Moorestown School Board President Kathy Goldenberg: “If the Governor’s funding formula were applied to our town’s tax base, each household would have a significant tax decrease.” (Statement, 6/27/16)

· “Our School District experiences additional unfunded mandates as well as increases in the number of students in need who require support that increase our expenditures without an increase in our state funding to support these additional costs. Underfunding of the School Funding Reform Act has negatively impacted our School District, as well as increased our residential taxes. I am pleased this issue has become one of the main focuses of the Governor.”

Woodcliff Lake Mayor Carlos Rendo: “For decades, municipalities in New Jersey have been strangled by property taxes. By reallocating state aid equally, Governor Christie’s school funding formula will provide much needed relief to taxpayers. This will have the effect of making New Jersey a more attractive place to live and raise a family.” (Statement, 6/27/16)

Hammonton Mayor Steve DiDonato: “We support Governor Christie’s equalization formula and the tax relief that goes along with his plan. This is especially important to the residents of our town living on fixed incomes. I personally want to thank the Governor for his leadership on this issue.” (Statement, 6/27/16)

Robbinsville Mayor David Fried: “I think the governor is right in that he is tackling this. If the Legislature had any sense, they should sit down with him and really work with him on this, because it really needs to be fixed. It is horribly broken. If the Legislature doesn’t, then every mayor in New Jersey should start looking for new legislators, because we have been waiting and waiting, and it has affected all of us.” (David Foster, “Gov. Christie repeatedly uses Trenton as poster child for school funding failures,” *The Trentonian*, 6/21/16)

Berkeley Mayor Carmen Amato: “The current school funding formula severely short-changes rural and suburban school districts like ours. I am encouraged by the Governor’s announcement today, that recognizes the shortcomings of the current formula and the need to provide a more fairer funding formula that treats all districts the same.” (Statement, 6/23/16)

· “Under the basics of this plan, both districts combined would see an increase of twenty million dollars in aid. Twenty million in additional property tax relief would be welcomed.

Cape May City Mayor Dr. Edward Mahaney: “Governor Christie’s initiative to implement a fairness formula for educational funding will provide a significant increase in state funding for our local K-12 schools. This will create a deserved opportunity for our Cape May area school administrators and teachers to improve the excellence of the educational programs and services which will benefit all of our regional youth. In addition, this initiative will allow our Cape May homeowners to receive needed property tax relief during these challenging economic times. This is a positive movement for our entire community.” (Statement, 6/27/16)

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