

# REQUEST: To Fully Honor the Recommendations from the 2013 Governor's Task Force For State Education Funding

## TASK FORCE CHARGE

Public Act 11-48, An Act Implementing Provisions of the Budget Concerning General Government, established a task force to study issues relating to state funding for education in the context of state constitutional requirements. The act specifically required the task force to focus on the Education Cost Sharing formula with consideration to state grants to interdistrict magnet schools, **regional agricultural science and technology education centers**, and funding issues relating to the cost of special education for the state and municipalities.

### Specific Recommendations:

1. Provide a consistent and more equitable level of state support among school choice programs.
2. **Fund non-Sheff host magnet school programs and regional agriscience programs equally** by providing the following:
  - a. For In-District (host school) students, the state would provide a standard \$3,000 per student grant for each program.
  - b. For Out-of-District (sending town) students, use the state average regular program expenditures (RPE) plus 10% (to compensate for more expensive specialized programs) as the true cost, and the state would provide a grant for 2/3 of this amount for each out-of-district student attending these schools. Their sending towns would be responsible for paying tuition for the amount up to, but not to exceed, the difference between the average NCEP and the state's contribution.
3. Phase-in the increased state grants over four years at a rate of 3 million dollars more each year for 4 years.

PLAN	OUTCOME
a. 3 million in 2013-2014	(3 million was added in 2013-2014)
b. 3 million in 2014-2015	(3 million was proposed, but reduced to 1.5 million added in 2014-2015)
c. 3 million in 2015-2016	(3.75 million needs to be added in the 1 <sup>st</sup> year (2015-2016) of the new budget)
d. 3 million in 2016-2017	(3.75 million needs to be added in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year (2016-2017) of the new budget)
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12 million total	12 million total

**BOTTOM LINE: To honor the task force recommendations, the total request is as follows:**

\$3.75 million needs to be added in the 2015-2016 proposed new budget

\$3.75 million needs to be added in the 2016-2017 proposed new budget

**TOTAL REQUEST: \$7.5 million new money needed**