

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224

December 3, 2014

Dear Governor Cuomo:

Research shows that for every \$1 invested in Pre-K, there is a \$7 return on investment. Because of this, the 150 business leader members of ReadyNation understand that early learning is perhaps the smartest economic development strategy that New York State can make.

However, we also understand that the high rate of return is only realized if those Pre-K programs are high-quality. The last thing business leaders want to see is millions of dollars invested in programs that don't have the outcomes we expect.

Therefore, we urge you to:

- Add at least \$150 million to the Statewide Universal Full-Day Prekindergarten Program, to provide upfront funding for districts outside New York City, and fully support New York City's plan to reach universal service in the 2015-16 school year; and
- Invest \$20M in increasing quality in early learning through implementation of a quality rating and improvement system, such as QUALITYstarsNY.

With over 60 percent of all Pre-K programs located in community-based organizations such as child care centers, we understand that supporting Pre-K in all venues is important to working families. Therefore, we ask that the State:

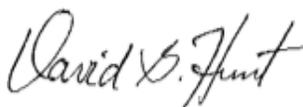
- Invest an additional \$100 million in child care subsidies in 2015-2016 to serve at least 13,000 additional children who are eligible and waiting.

Please Keep the Promise of Pre-K by not only increasing access to programs, but increasing access to quality. If New York State invests in both, we will see dividends immediately, and in years to come.

Thank you.



Ted Eveleth, COO
Ener-G-Rotors
Albany



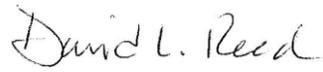
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