

1163071



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE  
GOVERNOR

October 29, 2009

Mr. Bill Massey

Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Massey:

Thank you for your letter regarding education in North Carolina. I appreciate hearing from North Carolina's engaged citizens, especially our educators, about issues that are important to all of us. It is quite an honor to be named your school's "Teacher of the Year". I'm sure your friends and family are very proud of you.

North Carolina, like the rest of the country, is facing the toughest economic crisis since the Great Depression, and there are no easy solutions.

Throughout the budget negotiations, I fought for two basic principles: protecting our classrooms and core services, and ensuring that working families were not saddled with an across-the-board income tax increase. The final budget was improved as a result of those efforts but still short in several areas, including cuts to local school districts and to mental health services. That is why when I signed the budget, I did so with reservation.

I will continue working with North Carolina's families and state officials to ensure that the reductions that were made in the budget are implemented carefully to protect as many core state services as possible.

I will keep your ideas in mind as we work to improve the quality of life in North Carolina.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bev Perdue".

Bev Perdue

/tr

