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PA Legislative Black Caucus, Member

House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

Co-Sponsorship Memo

DATE: February 6, 2012

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. James Roebuck, Democratic Chairman 
House Education Committee

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation – EITC for Education Improvement Organizations serving Low Achieving Schools

In the near future I intend to introduce legislation that would amend the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program (EITC) to add a new \$10 million tax credit for businesses that contribute to an Education Improvement Organization with an All Students Can Succeed program for a low achieving school. A low achieving school is a school where less than 50% of its students are proficient or advanced on their combined state reading and math assessments. There are currently an estimated 140 schools in the state that are low achieving schools.

Education Improvement Organizations with an All Students Can Succeed program could use the contributions they receive from business to support programs in these low achieving schools to improve student academic performance including, but not limited to:

- Safe school programs designed to improve and promote a safe school climate such as implementation of a School-Wide Positive Behavior Support program.
- Providing for after school and summer programs that include tutoring, mentoring and other social and academic programs.
- Providing intensive academic tutoring for all students during the school day who are not proficient in reading and math to bring them up to academic proficiency.
- Providing Alternative Education programs for disruptive students.
- Working with social service agencies to provide support and counseling to students and their families so parents can be more engaged in their child's education and students can better focus on their schoolwork.

While this legislation is companion legislation to the All Children Can Succeed program that I will be introducing, on its own this legislation will provide needed funding to those low achieving schools to improve the academic performance of their schools.

I want to stress that the additional \$10 million in tax credits for this program would not replace but would be in addition to tax credits provided in the existing Educational Improvement Tax Credit program.

If you wish to co-sponsor this legislation please contact Marlena Miller by phone at 717-787-7044 or via e-mail: mmmiller@pahouse.net

Thank you in advance for your support.