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**A Resolution Calling Upon The Legislature and Governor of New York State To  
Uncouple Budgeted Increases In School Aid From Negotiating And Filing New  
APPR Systems Under Education Law 3012-d**

WHEREAS that APPR systems are part of collectively bargained contracts between school districts and local teachers' unions, therefore, agreement by both parties is necessary for adoption of changes to existing systems; and

WHEREAS attaching a closing date by which negotiations must be concluded and filed with the State Education Department leads to severe, multi-year financial penalties, including reimbursements for a budget cycle nearing its conclusion and for which no new revenues can be raised by any means; creates undue, substantial pressures on both sides to clear and productive deliberations necessary to produce a satisfactory agreement; and

WHEREAS despite the announced moratorium on the use of standardized test scores as part of "official" APPR, the State Education Department continues to not only require their use at 50% weight for "study" purposes, but continue to make the results of test-based ratings available to the public; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District has previously concluded, through extensive research largely sourced to the State Education Department itself, that New York's test-based growth models are unproven, unreliable, and invalid in rating either the progress of students or the ability of teachers, and has called for their complete abandonment; and

WHEREAS the imposition of substantial financial penalties will cause irreparable harm to children; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the New Paltz Central School District calls upon Governor Andrew Cuomo and all legislators in the New York State Senate and Assembly to formally uncouple the adoption of new APPR plans from eligibility of school districts for state aid increases.

(Approved: April 6, 2016)