



**The Florida Senate**  
State Senator René García  
36<sup>th</sup> District

**Please reply to:**

**District Office:**

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June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The Honorable Joe Negron  
President of the Florida Senate  
409 The Capitol  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear President Negron,

I want to thank you, Governor Scott, and Speaker Corcoran for calling a Special Session to revisit several critical issues facing the State of Florida, including economic development, investment in Florida's Tourism industry, and K-12 Education Funding. I am of firm belief that debate and decision on these public policy issues, among others, simply cannot wait, and my Senate colleagues and I are eager to get to work.

While my career has reflected a passionate commitment to school choice and local autonomy, I find it difficult to support adjusting the Florida Education Finance Program while failing to address the erosion of Florida's commitment to public education that is contained within HB 7069. Dramatic policy shifts such as broadening the scope of eligibility for Title I funds, as well as allowing charter schools to use local tax revenue for capital outlay projects should be discussed in conjunction with any proposed increases in per student funding.

The public policy held within the FEFP and the set of policies passed within HB 7069 are inherently intertwined, and I believe there are many other positive aspects of the bill. However, absent giving the Legislature the opportunity to fix the aforementioned issues, I am not comfortable supporting any compromise that does not create a fair system for our publicly operated K-12 education institutions within the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "René García".

State Senator René García  
District 36