



NEW JERSEY SENATE

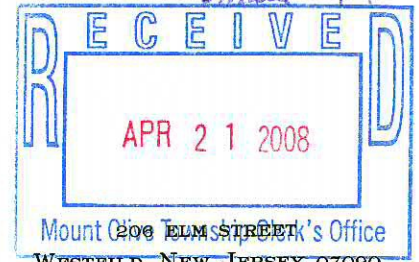
THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

SENATOR - DISTRICT 21

ESSEX - MORRIS - SOMERSET - UNION COUNTIES

SENATE MINORITY LEADER

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE



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April 17, 2008

Lisa Lashway
Mount Olive Township Clerk
204 Flanders-Drakestown Road
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

Dear Ms. Lashway,

Thank you for providing me with a copy of the Resolution "Opposing the Failure of the Governor's Proposed State Budget for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year to Treat Property Tax Relief as Our Priority."

While I support the Governor's much-belated intention to help solve New Jersey's current financial crisis through budget cuts, I do not agree with his plan to execute massive reductions in municipal tax relief funding. These cuts, in particular, are simply disingenuous attempts to fool the citizens of New Jersey that Trenton is making the drastic reductions in the State Budget that are necessary.

Cutting pass through aid does nothing except to drastically increase the property tax burden faced by the residents of this state, utilizing a gimmick that has been tried all-too-frequently by the Governors and the Legislatures of the past 7 years. In addition, I have great concern that Governor Corzine is penalizing smaller municipalities even though they can operate with great efficiency.

Please be assured that I will continue to support efforts that promote fiscal responsibility, significant budget cuts, and sorely needed tax relief for the citizens of New Jersey. Again, thank you for expressing the Governing Body's concerns with me on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Thomas H Kean, Jr.

/kf-ehc