

To address the issues with the Foundation Aid formula in New York State and create an environment that is both family-friendly and business-friendly, we must focus on comprehensive measures that support our students and their families. Caring for our students and their families is paramount. Developing affordable housing policies is crucial for attracting and retaining young families, reducing financial stress, and encouraging higher fertility rates. Expanding access to affordable childcare and family support services will help parents balance work and family life more effectively. Additionally, expanding on Governor Hochul's NY SWIMS Initiative to include additional, enhanced, and targeted state funding specifically dedicated to constructing pools in K-12 schools is essential. Increased aid for operating, maintenance, and staffing costs associated with these facilities should be built into the building aid formulas to promote equitable and year-round access to swimming instruction for all students, thereby enhancing health, safety, and educational experiences.

Supporting our economy through business development is equally important. Lowering taxes for everyone, alongside offering targeted tax incentives to businesses that invest in local communities and schools, can create jobs, stimulate local economies, and make the state more attractive for families and businesses alike. Encouraging public-private partnerships to invest in educational infrastructure, such as technology upgrades and new facilities, can provide students with the resources they need to succeed. By reforming business regulations to make the state more attractive to businesses and reducing bureaucratic hurdles, we can foster a pro-business climate. Investing in workforce development programs that align educational outcomes with the needs of local industries will ensure that students are prepared for available jobs, further strengthening our economy.

Enhancing the overall quality of life is vital for addressing outmigration. Improving public services, infrastructure, and recreational opportunities will make New York State a more attractive place to live. Implementing talent retention initiatives, such as student loan forgiveness programs for graduates who remain in the state, will help retain skilled individuals and contribute to a vibrant, thriving community. By creating a supportive environment for both businesses and families, we can ensure a prosperous future for New York State.

Growing our economy through business development and expanding the size of our families are vital to ensuring that New York State schools not only survive but thrive. By lowering taxes, creating a supportive environment for businesses, and investing in the well-being of our families, we can ensure a prosperous future for our state and provide our students with the opportunities they need to succeed. Enhancing the overall quality of life will help address outmigration, making New York State a more attractive place to live and work. Improving public services, infrastructure, and recreational opportunities, alongside implementing talent retention initiatives, such as student loan forgiveness programs for graduates who remain in the state, will help retain skilled individuals and contribute to a vibrant, thriving community. By creating a supportive environment for both businesses and families, we can ensure a prosperous future for New York State.