



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301**

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE  
GOVERNOR

July 27, 2009

Dear Teachers and Teacher Assistants:

For more than three months, I have laid out options for a budget that addresses two priorities: the budget cannot be balanced on the backs of working families, and it must have the revenue necessary to protect our public schools.

The tax package proposed by the General Assembly this week failed on both counts. That is why last Thursday I made clear that I cannot support the General Assembly's proposal for an across-the-board income tax increase.

Teachers and teacher assistants are the lifeblood of our public schools. Yet with the fiscal year already three weeks old, schools still don't know how many teachers and teacher assistants they will have for their classrooms.

The General Assembly must put aside its differences and bring me a budget plan that protects public school classrooms and that does not raise income taxes on working families — and they need to do it now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bev Perdue". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "B" at the beginning.

Bev Perdue

