



**EPP UPDATE
THE BILL HAS BEEN SENT TO THE GOVERNOR
YOUR IMMEDIATE ACTION IS REQUIRED
NOVEMBER 17, 2016**

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

Our lobbyists in Albany advised us yesterday that a series of education bills passed by the New York State Assembly and Senate, including the EPP bill, will be sent to the Governor's desk. This is the bill we have fought for for so many years.

The Union is enlisting its supporters and allies in the labor movement and in Albany to urge the Governor to sign this bill. It is just as important that the Governor now hear from those most affected by this bill, the members of Local 1181 who care for NYC's most vulnerable (our most precious cargo).

We urge you to take a moment and read the attached instructions for sending a message to Governor Cuomo, as well as a sample letter for you to use either for an email or a letter to the Governor. It is imperative that we act now, and together, to reach this goal that means so much to all of us. Regardless of our political opinions, there can be no doubt that working together to get this bill signed is of critical importance.

I urge you to take a moment and make your voice heard in Albany now.

In solidarity,

**Michael Cordiello
President / Business Agent
ATU Local 1181-1061**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SENDING A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNOR

1. To send an email

- Go to <https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>
- Fill out all of the required information
- In the Subject Box put: Urging you to sign A8019-C into law
- In the Message Box: State that you are sending the message to strongly support A8019-C, which would restore employee protection provisions to school bus contracts in New York City, allow the use of the employment cost index for the calculation of the extension of school bus contracts and exempt school bus purchases from sales tax. Then outline why you personally support the bill. At the end of the message, ask the Governor to sign this legislation into law or feel free to use the attached letter.
- If you can, print a copy of your message and give it to your Shop Steward. If the web site won't let you print the message, just let your Shop Steward know you have sent the letter.

2. To mail a letter

- The Governor's mailing address is:

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224
- The bill number is A8019-C sponsored by Assemblyman Daniel O'Donnell
- The bill will restore employee protection provisions to school bus contracts in New York City, allow the use of the employment cost index for the calculation of the extension of school bus contracts and exempt school bus purchases from sales tax
- Outline why you support the bill
- At the end, ask the Governor to sign this legislation into law
- Once you have finished your letter, get a copy to your Shop Steward.

Attached is a sample letter you can use to e-mail, fill out and give to your Shop Steward or mail to the Governor.

Date: _____

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Re: A8019-C (O'Donnell)/S5984-C (Golden) Relates to contracts for the transportation of school children

Dear Governor Cuomo:

My name is _____, and I am a member of Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1181. I am writing to express my strong support for A8019-C, which would restore employee protection provisions to school bus contracts in New York City, allow the use of the employment cost index for the calculation of the extension of school bus contracts and exempt school bus purchases from sales tax.

Our motto at our Local is "We Transport the City's Most Precious Cargo." We take this motto very seriously, and this legislation will help to guarantee that there is an experienced and trained workforce involved in transporting the schoolchildren of New York City. I am an experienced and properly trained DRIVER, MATRON, or MECHANIC, and because of this, the schoolchildren get where they need to go safely. For DRIVERS and MATRONS - I am a familiar face that the schoolchildren know and trust. Experienced DRIVERS and MATRONS have far fewer problems than new inexperienced school bus employees. When problems occur, it means the children are affected, and I want to make sure that the most experienced and trained workforce is available and hired.

On a personal note, this legislation is very important to me because it will provide job security. If the company I work for loses a bid for a new contract, this means I am out of job. The employee protection provisions help to ensure that regardless of who wins the bid, I have a job and my training and experience is not lost simply because the company providing the transportation services has changed.

It is for these reasons that I strongly support this legislation and urge you to sign this legislation into law.

Sincerely,
