

**SPECIAL EDUCATION COALITION ISSUES LETTER TO CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE BLASTING FAILURE TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR
SPECIAL EDUCATION**

For immediate release

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Frustrated by the recent Conference Committee decision which failed to adopt the Senate budget provision which would have increased special education funding by \$27 million or even a lesser compromise figure, the Quality Education Coalition (QEC) hand delivered a letter to the members of the Conference Committee (attached) expressing their frustration.

“Although we recognize that our letter is not likely to change the course of the Conference Committee’s work, QEC hopes the legislative leadership understands that we will not remain silent during this continuing tragic failure to remedy the crisis in funding special education which has been created by the legislature. We fully expect a substantial increase in special education funding in the 2003-05 biennial budget,” stated QEC chairperson, Jeffrey Spitzer-Resnick.

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