

**Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to
immediately end the Gap Elimination Adjustment**

Whereas, the NYS Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) was implemented in 2010 as a onetime reduction in education aid to help NYS balance its budget and the GEA has continued in every budget since then; and

Whereas, since its inception the GEA has reduced State aid to the Lake Placid Central School District by \$1,871,372.00; and

Whereas, the governor's budget proposal for the 2016-2017 school year projects another \$99,526.00 cut in State Aid through the Gap Elimination Adjustment; and

Whereas, this reduction in aid has resulted in a cost shift to the local property taxpayers in the Lake Placid Central School District; and

Whereas, these cost shifts have resulted in unsustainable measures to balance the budgets in the Lake Placid Central School District due to the projected reduction of school district fund reserves; and

Whereas, efforts by the Lake Placid Central School District to sustain programs and services are simultaneously constrained by a property tax levy limit; unfunded and underfunded mandates; increases in pension and health care costs; and mandated implementation of Common Core Learning Standards and teacher/principal performance reviews; and

Whereas, the Lake Placid Central School District has been pro-active in our attempt to control these cost shifts over the past five years through the reduction and elimination of school programs and services; and

Whereas, the Lake Placid Central School District has presented budgets over the past five years that represented an average annual increase in the tax levy of 2.28% and average annual spending increases 2.52% for the same time period; and

Whereas, adequate State funding is constitutionally mandated and essential to meet all mandates and obligations and to maintain the quality of education in public schools in NYS; therefore

Be it resolved, that the Lake Placid Central School District's Board of Education calls upon the New York State Legislature to **immediately** end the Gap Elimination Adjustment and refund the money projected to be cut under the GEA to the school district.

District Clerk

Dated: