



M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

RECEIVED

MAY 16 2008

MAYOR'S OFFICE

May 13, 2008

Mayor John DeStefano, Jr., New Haven, CT  
Mayor Bill Finch, Bridgeport, CT  
Mayor Michael Jarjura, Waterbury, CT  
Mayor Dannel Malloy, Stamford, CT

Gentlemen:

I have received your letter of May 12 regarding funding for the Early Reading Success program. As a strong supporter of Early Reading Success, I understand your concerns that funding for this program has been eliminated in the FY 09 budget.

As you may recall, the biennial budget I submitted in February of 2007 included funding for this program in both years of the biennium. Unfortunately, while the Appropriations Committee, chaired by Senator Harp of New Haven and Representative Merrill of Mansfield, reported out a biennial budget that maintained my funding for this program for the current fiscal year, they eliminated funding for the Early Reading Success program for FY 09.

I would also note that members of the majority caucuses of the General Assembly reportedly are currently engaged in efforts to convene a Special Session of the General Assembly via the petition process and, via the petition process, to establish the scope of the session. To the best of my knowledge, neither the petition nor the scope of the upcoming session has been made public. We do not yet know, therefore, if the scope of the session will encompass budgetary matters.

I would suggest, therefore, that it would be more appropriate for you to direct your efforts to restore funding for the Early Reading Success program to the chairs of the Appropriations Committee and the leadership of the majority caucuses of the General Assembly.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell  
Governor