



**STATE OF INDIANA  
INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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**Brian C. Bosma  
Speaker of the House**

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President Pro Tempore**

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August 2, 2013

Mr. John Grew, Executive Director,  
State Relations and Policy Analysis  
Indiana University  
101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1776  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mr. William Sheldrake, President and Founder  
Policy Analytics LLC  
One North Pennsylvania Street, Suite 530  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear John and Bill,

As you know, Indiana has received national attention this week due to the concerns with the A-F metric for grading Indiana's schools. As you may also know, the Indiana General Assembly, during the 2013 legislative session, expressed its concerns about this same issue when it passed House Enrolled Act 1427. In that bill, we required the State Board of Education to "go back to the chalkboard" on the A-F metric and to come up with a new metric, one based on achievement and growth, by November 15, 2013.

Since then, however, the issue has been brought to the forefront in negative ways and our concerns about the previous assessment system are increasing. We write to you today to ask you to undertake a critical task - to examine the previous A-F metric, by completing the following tasks:

- Assessing the previous A-F assessment tool;
- Determining its validity;
- Ascertaining the fairness of previous grades given to schools;
- Determining whether manipulations of the system occurred; and
- Making recommendations to the State Board of Education and/or the General Assembly as to what next steps may be appropriate.

We realize how challenging a task this is. We also understand that you will need some resources to accomplish it. As the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Legislative Council, we will support you in any way we can – with staff and financial resources. We also need to have your assessment completed by Labor Day. Given the gravity of the situation, we feel this research merits immediate attention.

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Thank you for considering our request to serve the citizens of Indiana in this manner. Your input will be so important to the families and, most importantly, to the students of our state.

Sincerely,



Brian C. Bosma  
Speaker of the House  
118<sup>th</sup> General Assembly



David Long  
President Pro Tempore, Indiana Senate  
118<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

cc: Minority Leader Scott Pelath  
Minority Leader Tim Lanane