

Good afternoon,
To: Senator Pam Helming
From: Jacob Welch

I am hoping to speak in person with Senator Helming, in hopes to work together in getting the state of New York to participate in preserving funds to county sheriffs departments within the 54 district. These funds would be preserved for our school resources officers, I am planning on meeting with representative Claudia Tenney in hopes to have the COPs federal grant reinstated, and or additional funding opportunities to be presented to school districts around New York State.

It is my understanding that by 2024 all Ontario county school districts will be enforced to use the school budget, for educational material, resources, curriculum and to maintain safety. In my opinion, school districts are already limited on funding for educational materials and curriculum, enforcing schools to pay their county sheriff's department out of their own limited budget for safety is adding more burden to those schools, while taking away the ability for schools to use there funds for what there meant for which is educational material, resources and curriculum.

I have reached out to the Ontario county sheriff's department, in hopes that I could speak with the new sheriff, but I was turned away with a stiff shoulder. I have reached out the DOJ to understand what was the cause of the funds being stopped, they stated they had run out of funding, so it's a matter of pushing the federal government to do there part while making sure the state of New York does there's to maintain safety for our kids in public school settings.

I do not disagree that schools are responsible and must be accountable to maintain safety for all students, but we have to find a way where the schools can do this, without taking away from their limited school budget in 2025. I know that Senator Helming is a big advocate for law enforcement and school safety, so am I. This is why I want to reach out and see what additional funds we can help attract for our law enforcement and schools, while ensuring that those schools are able to use their funds for what they're meant for.

Thank you, and I look forward to speaking with you soon, on a time that works for the senate to meet.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

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