

Letter to the *New York Times* Editor

Re: Governor's State Address

Dear Sir,

On 1/4/12 the Governor outlined an ambitious agenda for the coming legislative session. However, one of his statements is incorrect; NYS students have 'lobbyists' solely concerned with their needs. The New York State PTA has been a dynamic force advocating for students for 115 years. We have been instrumental in securing legislation and regulations for all students including education standards, school lunches, child labor laws and school bus safety measures. To suggest that there is no one addressing students' concerns is a disservice to the hundreds of thousands members of this association who volunteer their time and energies to our mission. Our mission is to be a powerful voice for all children and to be strong advocates for the education and well-being of every child. We welcome the opportunity to partner with the Governor believing that together we can make a difference.



Maria Fletcher, PhD
President, New York State PTA