



# S U P P O R T

## MEMORANDUM IN

# S U P P O R T

OF

### **S.1746 – Ramos / A.1120 – Joyner**

The CSEA strongly supports this legislation.

This legislation would amend section 27-b of the labor law to include public schools within the definition of employers who are required to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence.

The State enacted Chapter 82 of the laws of 2006 to stem the increasing level of violence in the workplace. This law requires public employers to develop a workplace violence prevention program to protect workers from potentially violent encounters. When the 2006 law was enacted, public schools were excluded from the employers required to develop such programs.

This bill would remove the exemption for public schools. Amid a rising threat of gun violence, school shootings, and swatting incidents, schools need to increase efforts to protect students and staff. By initiating a workplace violence protection program, including conducting risk evaluations, and providing safety training to employees, schools can prevent and minimize workplace violence and help ensure the safety of everyone in a school building and on school grounds.

Students and staff deserve safe working and learning environments. This legislation is a natural expansion of the existing law and will help protect millions of public school students and employees throughout New York State.

On behalf of 300,000 active and retired, public, and private employees across the state, CSEA strongly urges the approval of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Turner  
Director