



# S U P P O R T

## MEMORANDUM IN

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OF

## **S.5486 – Jackson / A.6855 – Pheffer Amato**

The CSEA strongly supports the passage of this legislation.

This bill amends subdivision 2 of section 50 of the Civil Service Law to require the state Department of Civil Service and municipal civil service commissions to announce competitive civil service examinations to BOCES, high schools, colleges, universities, local social services districts, and job training programs that are located within the same geographic area as the civil service commission.

CSEA proudly represents employees that work for New York State and local governments. These employees are on the frontlines, keeping our state and municipalities running. However, for a decade, austerity budgets and a strict hiring freeze decimated our public sector workforce. Since 2012, New York State agencies have had a net loss of more than 13,000 employees, and in the same timeframe, local government employers outside of New York City have lost more than 7% of their workforce. This is not sustainable.

We must take action to rebuild our public sector workforce. This starts with improving our outreach and widening our pool of potential applicants. By advertising testing in more areas across the state, we can meet people where they are and connect more New Yorkers to good middle-class jobs. This expanded outreach will improve the quantity and quality of potential applicants and will allow public employers to reach underrepresented groups to ensure that our public sector employees are as diverse as the communities that they serve.

On behalf of more than 300,000 active and retired, public and private employees across New York State, CSEA strongly urges the passage of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Turner  
Director