



CAMBRIDGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



159 Thorndike Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02238

February 9, 1981

Honorable Gerald M. Cohen, Chairman
Joint Committee on Taxation
House of Representatives
State House
Boston, Ma.

Dear Representative Cohen,

Unfortunately I regret that I will be unable to attend the Joint Committee hearing on Wednesday, February 11th.

The Cambridge School Committee is presently holding hearings on the 1981-82 budget. Under Proposition 2½ some 300 teachers and administrators will be dismissed. This calls for a thirty-five percent reduction in the present teaching staff. These reductions call for the elimination of all special programs such as science, art, music and home economics, increase in class size, and severe cutbacks in athletics.

It is the position of the Cambridge Teachers Association that we have a two year contract in effect and that the School Committee still has a responsibility and obligation to seek budgets that will provide for adequate funding for education.

On November 4th the citizens of Cambridge rejected Proposition 2½ by a 63% to 37% margin. By this vote the people of Cambridge voiced that they have a right to expect a full, valuable, and quality education.

I urge you and the Joint Committee on Taxation to look into other alternatives to Proposition 2½ and to save our schools from the Dark Ages of Education.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Roger F. O'Sullivan
Roger F. O'Sullivan
Second Vice President

cc: C.T.A. President
City Manager
City Clerk
Secretary, Cambridge School Committee

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Comm. from Roger F. O'Sullivan, Second
Vice-Pres., Cambridge Teachers Association,
urging the City Council to seek other
alternatives to Proposition 2½.

In City Council,

Feb. 23, 1981

Placed on File