



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE
OF CHARLOTTE, INC.

Making A Difference Since 1926

To the Members of the North Carolina General Assembly:

First, please let me thank you for funding one school nurse position for Charlotte last year. Each nurse makes a difference and Charlotte is grateful. However, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools are still far behind the recommended nurse to student ratio of 1:750. CMS currently has 137,000 students in grades Pre-K through 12, but only 121 school nurses. This is a ratio of one school nurse for every 1,132 students (1:1,132).

It is absolutely critical that Charlotte continue to receive funding for additional school nurses from the General Assembly. For the past two years the Junior League of Charlotte (JLC) and several other local groups have asked the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners for additional local funding. They obliged by voting for the funding of 20 more school nurses the first year and 26 the second. We are counting on this local contribution to increase again this year, however, there must be a collaborative effort between local and state funding to close the large gap that still exists.

Part of your responsibilities as a member of the North Carolina General Assembly is to be the voice of the general public. This school nurse shortage affects us all — whether we have children in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system or not. It's time that we ask and receive the funding that will give children the best possible health education and care that we can.

As a member of the Junior League of Charlotte, over 2,100 strong, and a registered voter in the state of North Carolina, I am asking for your help to improve our school nurse to student ratio. School nurses improve the wellbeing of our most treasured resource — our children. I know you can help make this difference, and I'm counting on you to help our voices be heard. We owe this to our children – to our future.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____