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FOR IMMEDIATE

ORTHODOX UNION, RCA AND BISHOPS CONFERENCE JOIN EFFORTS TO ENACT TAX CREDIT BILL; LEGISLATION WOULD ASSIST STUDENTS IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS



Representatives of the <u>Orthodox Union</u>, the **Rabbinical Council of America** (**RCA**), and the **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops** met yesterday for their semi-annual meeting to discuss issues affecting the Jewish and Catholic communities.

Included in the agenda was the *proposed Education Investment Tax Credit Legislation (A.1826/S.4099)*, designed to increase individual and corporate donations for education by enhancing long-standing tax benefits provided under current law from a tax exemption to a tax credit. The bill would help both public and private schools alike by dividing the tax credits evenly between donations made to public schools, including non-profit organizations supporting public schools, and donations made to scholarship organizations that provide scholarships for students to attend private schools.

Pictured (1 to r), front row: **Maury Litwack** of the OU; Professor **David Berger** of *Yeshiva University*; **Bishop William Murphy**, Bishop of *Rockville Center*; **Rabbi Joseph Karasick** of the OU; **Darcy Hirsh** of the *UJA-Federation of New York*; **Jeff Leb** of the OU; and **Rabbi Dr. Aaron Glatt** of the *Young Israel of Woodmere*.

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The Orthodox Union is the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization; its Institute for Public Affairs (IPA) leads the Union's advocacy efforts in Washington, DC and state capitals.

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