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MEDIA ADVISORY

RZA–Mizrachi welcomes Hochul’s decision to bring federal scholarship program to New York Jewish day school families stand to benefit as state moves toward participation in new tax credit program

NEW YORK — October 13, 2026 — The Religious Zionists of America–Mizrachi (RZA) welcomed Gov. Kathy Hochul’s announcement that New York will participate in the federal scholarship tax credit program, which begins in 2027.

The program will allow individuals to receive a federal tax credit of up to \$1,700 for qualifying contributions to scholarship-granting organizations. Those organizations can provide scholarships for eligible K–12 students, including children attending Jewish day schools and yeshivot.

“Jewish education is central to the future of our community, but its cost places an enormous burden on many families,” said Stephen M. Flatow, chair of RZA–Mizrachi. “Governor Hochul’s decision gives New Yorkers an opportunity to help those families in a practical way. We thank her for listening to parents and moving the state toward participation.”

In her October 9 statement, Hochul said she wanted the program to benefit students in all types of schools, including public schools, without reducing state or local education budgets.

“Families have different educational needs,” Flatow said. “We welcome an approach that helps children in public schools while also recognizing the families who choose a Jewish education for their children.”

RZA also praised the Orthodox Union’s Teach Coalition for its sustained advocacy on behalf of the program and New York’s participation. The organization urged the state to complete the steps needed to identify qualified scholarship-granting organizations so donors and families can benefit when the program takes effect.

“A decision in Albany opens the door,” Flatow said. “Now we must make sure families know how to walk through it. RZA looks forward to helping Jewish communities understand this opportunity.”

*Established in 1913, the RZA is one of the oldest and most influential Zionist organizations in the United States. It helped create pioneering Jewish communities in the Land of Israel, campaigned for the establishment of Israel, and has inspired numerous American Zionists to make aliya. Today the RZA is on the front lines of pro-Israel activism and religious Zionist education.
The RZA is not affiliated with any American or Israeli political party.*