

TRENTON WATCH October 2024 Recap

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BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS



Support

[S2306](#)

Sponsors Beach (D6) / Singleton (D7)

Summary "New Jersey Works Act"; permits businesses to apply for tax credits for establishing approved pre-employment and work readiness training programs in partnership with schools, nonprofit organizations, or educational institutions.

History Released



Support

[S2498](#)

Sponsors Ruiz (D29) / Turner (D15)

Summary Requires Commissioner of Education to establish and maintain common application and web portal for substitute teachers seeking employment at public schools

History Released – Combined with S-2505. Y-40 N-0 - Passed in Senate



Support

[S2505](#)

Sponsors Ruiz (D29) / McKnight (D31)

Summary Requires Commissioner of Education to establish and maintain an educator common application and web portal.

History Released – Combined with S-2498



Support

[S3415](#)

Sponsors Zwicker (D16) / Sarlo (D36)

Summary Establishes "Energy Infrastructure Public-Private Partnerships Program"; amends law concerning NJ infrastructure Bank; and authorizes certain energy contracts under "Public School Contracts Law" and "Local Public Contracts Law" up to 25 years.

History Released



Support

[S3608](#)

Sponsors Sarlo (D36) / Polistina (R2)

Summary Permits restaurants and certain alcoholic beverage retailers to conduct business within designated outdoor space or on public sidewalk.

History Passed in Assembly Y-75 N-0. Passed in Senate Y-39 N-0. Sent to Governor.

CHILDREN, FAMILIES, & FOOD SECURITY



Support

[AR152](#)

Sponsors Venezia (D34) / Coughlin (D19) / Morales (D34)

Summary Expresses support for “Breakfast Bowl” held by Montclair State University and Rowan University and recognizes food insecurity efforts of these institutions.



Support

[A4544](#)

Sponsors Schnall (D30) / Reynolds-Jackson (D15) / Pintor Marin (D29)

Summary Expands eligibility requirements of State’s childcare assistance program to include full-time graduate and post-graduate students.

History Y-74 N-0 A-0 – Passed in Assembly

COMMERCE



Support

[S1475](#)

Sponsors McKeon (D27)

Summary "Consumer Legal Funding Act."



Support

[S2688](#) / [A2813](#)

Sponsors McKnight (D31) / Gopal (D11) and Greenwald (D6) / Reynolds-Jackson (D15) / Speight (D29)

Summary Enters NJ in Social Work Licensure Compact.



Support

[S3051](#)

Sponsors Singer (R30) / Pou (D35)

Summary Requires Division of Consumer Affairs to hire staff to alleviate professional license application backlog; appropriates \$10,000,000 in fiscal years 2026, 2027, and 2028.

COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, & AGRICULTURE



Support

[A3899](#)

Sponsors Moen (D5) / Simmons (D3) / Bailey (D3)

Summary Provides corporation business tax and gross income tax credits for value of certain fruit and vegetable donations made by commercial farm operators.



Support

[A4603](#)

Sponsors Freiman (D16) / Sauickie (R12) / Peterpaul (D11)

Summary Allows commercial farmer to be awarded reasonable costs and attorney fees for defending against bad faith complaints under "Right to Farm Act".



Support

[ACR138](#)

Sponsors Katz (D8) / Freiman (D16) / Sauickie (R12)

Summary Honors 40th anniversary of Jersey Fresh program



Support

[SJR29](#)

Sponsors Diegnan (D18) / Sarlo (D36)

Summary Designates August of each year as "Professional Engineers Month" in NJ and first Wednesday in August of each year as "Professional Engineering Day."

History Y-76 N-0 A-0 – Passed in Assembly.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS



Oppose–
Seeking
Amendments

[A2477](#)

Sponsors Quijano (D20)

Summary "Free Means Free Act"; prohibits misleading advertising of free products.

EDUCATION



Support

[S2237](#)

Sponsors Ruiz (D29) / McKnight (D31)
Summary Establishes Department of Early Childhood.
History This bill was held and not voted on

ECONOMIC GROWTH



Support

[S1056](#)

Sponsors Greenstein (D14) / Zwicker (D16)
Summary Requires EDA to create needs-matching website for eligible entities.



Support

[S3189](#)

Sponsors Zwicker (D16)
Summary Increases amount of tax credits for investments made in certain technology business ventures under "New Jersey Angel Investor Tax Credit Act."

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY



Support

[S2433](#)

Sponsors Smith (D17) / McKeon (D27)
Summary Requires paint producers to implement or participate in paint stewardship program.



Oppose

[S3195](#)

Sponsors Smith (D17) / Mukherji (D32)
Summary Prohibits food service businesses from providing single-use plastic utensils and condiments to customers, except upon request, and requires certain food service businesses to provide reusable, washable utensils to customers eating on site.



Support

[S3618](#)

Sponsors Smith (D17) / Greenstein (D14)
Summary Directs DEP and DOT to establish "Wildlife Corridor Action Plan".
History Y-40 N-0 – Passed in Senate.

ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, & SOLID WASTE



Support

[A3033](#)

Sponsors Calabrese (D36)
Summary Designates Common Eastern Bumble Bee as New Jersey State Native Pollinator.
History Y-73 N-2 A-0 – Passed in Assembly.

HEALTH



Support

[AR120](#)

Sponsors Conaway (D7) / Speight (D29) / Reynolds-Jackson (D15)
Summary Urges amendment of Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement to create definition for oral health care products.
History Y-77 N-0 A-0 – Passed in Assembly.

HIGHER EDUCATION



Oppose

[S3668](#)

Sponsors Turner (D15) / Cryan (D20)
Summary Phases out State tuition aid grants for students enrolled in proprietary institutions of higher education; redirects State tuition aid grant funding for students enrolled in proprietary institutions to summer tuition aid grant program.



Support

[A2801](#)

Sponsors Greenwald (D6) / Pintor Marin (D29) / Conaway (D7)
Summary Renames, extends eligibility, and makes various other changes to Primary Care Practitioner Loan Redemption Program.
History Y-66 N-10 A-1 – Passed in Assembly.

LABOR



Support

[A2445](#)

Sponsors Quijano (D20)

Summary Creates resume bank for certain persons with disabilities.



Oppose

[S2949](#)

Sponsors Moriarty (D4) / Mukherji (D32)

Summary Revises unemployment compensation law.

History Identical to A4047.



Oppose –
Seeking
Amendments

[A3994](#)

Sponsors Venezia (D34) / Sampson (D31) / Karabinchak (D18)

Summary Expands scope of public works subject to prevailing wage requirements; concerns prevailing wage law requirements for public institutions of higher education.



Oppose

[A4047](#)

Sponsors Sampson (D31) / Verrelli (D15) / Miller (D4)

Summary Revises unemployment compensation law.

History Y-35 N-3 – Passed in Senate.



Support

[A4809](#)

Sponsors Greenwald (D6) / Verrelli (D15)

Summary Requires DOLWD to identify and recruit unemployed individuals for employment in health care facilities, home care services, and hospice services; makes appropriation.

MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS



Support

[S3264](#)

Sponsors Johnson (D37) / Cruz-Perez (D5)

Summary Makes supplemental appropriation of \$500,000 to DCA for NJ State Veterans Chamber of Commerce for veteran economic development and outreach and skills development.

REGULATED PROFESSIONS



Support

[AJR50](#)

Sponsors Karabinchak (D18) / Stanley (D18)

Summary Designates August of each year as "Professional Engineers Month" in NJ and first Wednesday in August of each year as "Professional Engineering Day."

SCIENCE, INNOVATION, & TECHNOLOGY



Support

[A4577](#)

Sponsors Drulis (D16)

Summary Requires State departments and Office of Technology to provide reports on proposed technology upgrades.

History Amendment passed in Assembly (Wimberly).

TRANSPORTATION



Support

[A2180](#)

Sponsors Moen (D5) / Wimberly (D35) / Murphy (D7) / Beach (D6) / Polistina (R2)

Summary Permits certain persons to operate Type S school buses.

History Concur with governor recommended conditional veto: Passed by the Senate 34 – 0. Governor signed into law on October 4.



Support

[A2607](#)

Sponsors Karabinchak (D18) / Calabrese (D36) / Inganamort (R24) / Diegnan (D18) / Mukherji (D32)

Summary Authorizes taxicabs, limousines, and transportation network companies to provide paratransit services for two-year period.

History Concur with governor recommended conditional veto: Passed by the Senate 34 – 0. Governor signed into law on October 4.



Support

[S3191](#)

Sponsors Diegnan (D18)

Summary Permits certain transportation research contracts to be awarded to private research institutions of higher education and other entities.

History Reported out of Senate Transportation Committee.



Oppose

[S3389](#)

Sponsors Diegnan (D18)
Summary Provides certain requirements concerning railroad safety.
History Reported out of Senate Transportation Committee.



Support

[S3526](#)

Sponsors Diegnan (D18)
Summary Changes certain Mobility and Transportation Innovation Pilot Program requirements; appropriates \$20 million.
History Reported out of Senate Transportation Committee.