

New Jersey State League of Municipalities

2023 Legislative Guide

m

An Overview of Municipal Advocacy in Trenton

Your Valuable Liaison in Trenton

Letter from the League President



Raymond S. Heck, Mayor Millstone Borough; President, New Jersey League of Municipalities

ocal public servants have unique access to their constituents, moving through their communities every day, becoming informed about important issues. Having this hyper-local perspective provides us with the critical insight needed to be effective voices for those we serve, and allows us to boldly and confidently advocate for public policies that best meet the needs of our constituents.

Throughout the Garden State, urban and rural, industrial, residential, and agricultural regions have been tried and tested with challenges to individuals, communities, and businesses. And local governments have worked with State and Federal officials to help ensure that the proper share of recovery funds are distributed to municipalities to do what those funds were intended to do.

The widespread and varied decisions of the State Legislature and by the Governor's Administration continue to impact our local problem-solving ability. The emergent issues associated with the pandemic, as well as the ongoing challenges for municipalities including property taxes, labor force issues, and crisis management, keep your League Officers and Legislative Team targeting their efforts to continue to meet the expectations of their residents for safe places to live, work, and raise their families.

Likewise, the League of Municipalities helps local elected officials to share the challenges and successes in their own communities, and to speak with one powerful voice to our State representatives for the benefit of our constituents. The board and staff help to promote and achieve open, robust dialogue between local officials, the Legislature, and the Governor. When new laws and initiatives are crafted, we help ensure legislators are balancing the needs of the state with those of municipalities in a manner reflective of the unique conditions of the communities they impact. The League's work helps us ensure safe and healthy communities, maximize funding opportunities, and coordinate the delivery of needed services, regardless of partisan considerations. Progress, however, will grind to a halt, and may even lose ground, without the organized and cooperative participation of local officials with those in our Statehouse.

The League's work helps us ensure safe and healthy communities, maximize funding opportunities, and coordinate the delivery of needed services, regardless of partisan considerations.

Please carefully consider the information included in this Legislative Guide. Let it be a building block in ensuring that you continuously earn the special trust your constituents give you to work on their behalf.

Make your voice heard by sharing with the League and your state-level representatives your specific policy-related needs. Take the opportunity to volunteer for any League committees or task forces studying issues important to you.

Ways the League's Legislative Team Helps You





Lori Buckelew Deputy Executive Director/ Director of Government Relations Ibuckelew@njlm.org

Frank Marshall, Esq. Associate General Counsel fmarshall@njlm.org



Paul Penna Senior Legislative Analyst ppenna@njlm.org

During each two-year term of the Legislature, more than 11,000 bills and resolutions are introduced. Of those bills, approximately 3,000 impact the Garden State's 564 municipalities. Here's how the League helps you.

Member Interaction

Each year, we interact with you at the League's Annual meeting. Throughout the rest of the year, we visit your county league meetings and year-round events to keep our finger on the pulse of municipal concerns.

We encourage you to send in resolutions, respond to surveys, or reach out. Because we've been listening, we are prepared to respond to proposed legislation.

Legislative Committee Meetings

I The League Legislative Team reviews lists of bills recently introduced or amended, thoroughly analyzing bills most likely to affect local governments. Based on those analyses, we prepare an agenda of bills to take before the League Legislative Committee.

That Committee is composed of over 100 local officials (see page 7), just like you. We encourage you to bring your insights to the General Legislation; Land Use, Environment, and Community Development; Intra-Municipal Affairs; or Taxation and Finance subcommittees.

Each Subcommittee has an agenda of 10 to 15 bills that are studied, debated, and voted upon. Then we convene as a Committee of the Whole to take final action on the recommendations of the Subcommittees.

Legislative Action

After the meetings, your League Legislative Team returns to Trenton to draft position letters on the various



Andrew LaFevre Legislative Analyst alafevre@njlm.org





Ciara Bradley Research Assistant cbradley@njlm.org

Shirley Cade Legislative Administrator scade@njlm.org

bills based on the Committee's debates and actions. These are sent to sponsors and to any Legislators who could be asked to vote on the proposals. Committee

actions are also summarized and analyzed in League publications.

When your help is needed on a deadline, the members of the League Legislative Team rely on "Legislative Alert" emails. If aware of your interest in a particular matter, personal emails and phone calls are sometimes placed as well. We use these tools when a good bill needs a push or when a bad bill seems ripe for passage.

Key Policy Maker Contacts

Your League Legislative Team–a veteran staff of duly registered Governmental Affairs Agents–keeps you informed about proposals put forward by all our State's 40 Senators and 80 Assembly Members, as well as by the Governor's Administration.

We reinforce with key policy makers exactly how you feel about the major issues impacting the community.

The Legislative Team monitors the weekly meetings of Assembly and Senate Committees and provides the Committee Members with background on the League's position on the bills under their consideration.

State-Level Committee Meetings

The Senate and Assembly committees consider bills and resolutions in forums that represent the best of representative democracy in our Garden State.

Legislators listen to arguments for and against passage of scores of proposals over the two-year session. Whenever they consider a bill on which the League has a position, we will let them know what your position is and why.

All of these actions can make a difference when it comes to protecting the interests of local government.

Loud & Clear Using your voice as a partner with the Legislative Team

E lected and appointed local officials have a unique opportunity to engage their state and federal representatives independently and with the Legislative Team to ensure your voice is heard loud and clear. As your partner here in Trenton, the League's Alerts and Calls to Action will help you stay informed and empowered in your efforts for a better Garden State.

In addition to our policy objectives, the League's advocacy is focused on enhancing member engagement.

The first step in that effort is catching up on the details of the latest legislative issues through the local government lens.

The Town Crier blog is focused on legislative and regulatory issues. Using this tool helps you drill a bit deeper into important policy developments. Following The Town Crier at www.njlm.org/blog, gets you the latest analyses on the largest questions facing policy makers in our state and nation's capitals.

Past postings have dealt with issues like:

- COVID-19 recovery funding
- Liquor license reform
- Regulatory advisories

• Cannabis legalization

• Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits.

For the latest legislative developments, please follow the League's active social media. We have a presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

More information about bills and other related information can be viewed and printed free to the public through the Office of Legislative Services' website, www.nileg.state.ni.us.

Digitized bills from the 1996-1997 session through today can be searched by Bill Number, Bill Sponsors, and Bills in Committee, Keyword(s), and Bill Subject.

Check the League's homepage, www.njlm.org, for the latest information on the League's legislative activities.

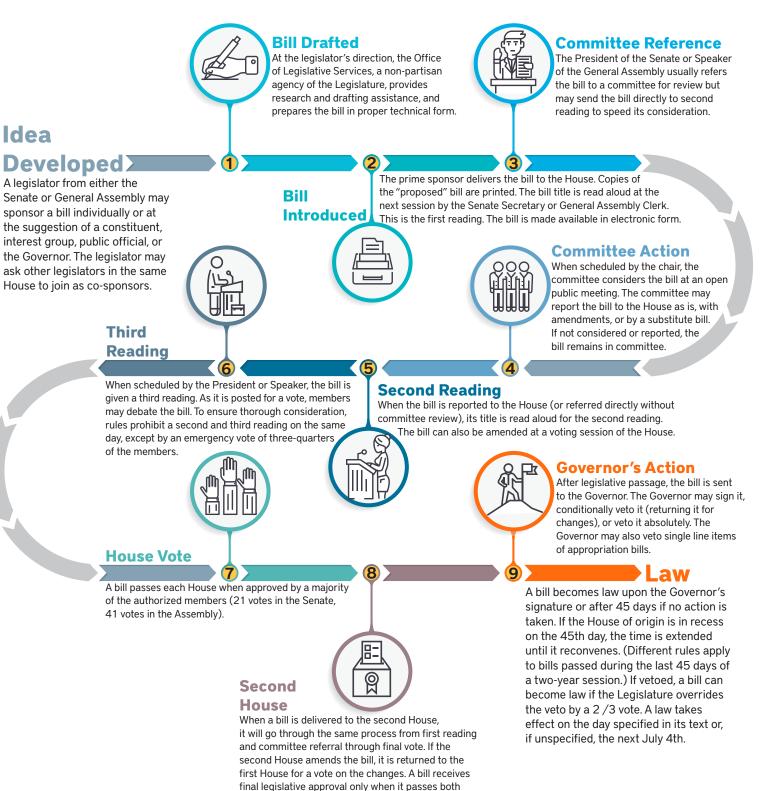
Active Options

The League of Municipalities speaks on your behalf, and to be effective, we all need to be actively engaged





Inside the Legislative Process



Houses in identical form.

2023 League Legislative Committee

The League would like to thank all the members of the Legislative Committee. Our advocacy efforts would not be possible without their willingness to share their valuable time and expertise.

Co-Chairs:

William J. Kearns Jr. Esq., *NJLM General Counsel* Colleen Y. Mahr, *Mayor, Fanwood; NJLM Immediate Past President*

NJLM Staff:

Michael F. Cerra, *Executive Director* Lori Buckelew, *Deputy Executive Director & Director of Government Affairs* Frank Marshall, Esq., *Associate General Counsel* Paul Penna, *Senior Legislative Analyst* Andrew LaFevre, *Legislative Analyst* Ciara Bradley, *Research Associate*

General Committee

Chairperson: Gary J. Passanante, Mayor, Somerdale Borough; Member, NJLM Executive Board

Deputy Chairperson: Trishka Waterbury Cecil, Esq., *NJLM Deputy Counsel*

James Anzaldi, NJLM Past President Paul Anzano, Mayor, Hopewell Borough Christopher Awe, Councilman, East Orange J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor, Elizabeth City; NJLM Past President Jamila Odom Bremmer, Mayor, Chesilhurst Borough Shelley Brindle, Mayor, Westfield Town Robert Conley, Mayor, Madison Borough Jimmy Davis, Mayor, Bayonne City John G. Ducey, Mayor, Brick Township Tency A. Eason, Council President, Orange City Sean Elwell, Mayor, Elsinboro Township; 3rd Vice President, NJLM Executive Board Reed Gusciora, Mayor, Trenton Chris Jacksic, Mayor, Hardwick Township Barbara George Johnson, Vice President, External Affairs & Urban Policy, Kean University Paul Kanitra, Mayor, Point Pleasant Beach Borough Albert Kelly, Mayor, Bridgeton City; NJLM Past President Kerry Kirk Pflug, Executive Director, NJ Conference of Mayors, Phyllis A. Magazzu, Mayor, Berlin Township Tenisha Malcolm, Executive Director, NJ Urban Mayors Association Timothy C. McDonough, Mayor, Hope Township; NJLM Past President Robert McQueen, Director of Information Technology, Franklin Township (Somerset) Paul Medany, Mayor, Deptford Township

Menashe Miller, Deputy Mayor, Lakewood Township Greg Myhre, Mayor, Stafford Township Shoshanna Page, Senior Policy Advisor & Communications, Newark City John Pallone, Mayor, Long Branch City; Member, NJLM Executive Board Matthew S. Rogers, Esq., Municipal Attorney, Ridgewood Village Andre Sayegh, Mayor, Paterson City Maureen Tansey-Hughes, Management Specialist, Elizabeth City Robert Uhrik, Mayor, Rocky Hill Tony Vauss, Mayor, Irvington Township Suzanne M. Walters, NJLM Past President Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., Mayor, Orange City

Representatives of:

Jersey Access Group Municipal Court Administrators Association of New Jersey Municipal Welfare Directors Association of New Jersey New Jersey Assoc. of County & City Health Officials

Land Use, Environment & Community Development Committee

Chairperson: Deborah Buzby-Cope, *Mayor, Bass River Township*

Deputy Chairperson: Brian C. Wahler, *Mayor, Piscataway; NJLM Past Presidentp*

Ed Buzak, Esq., Buzak Law Group, NJLM Assistant Counsel Robert Campbell, Mayor, Downe Township Peter Cantu, Mayor, Plainsboro Township; NJLM Past President Sheena Collum, Village President, South Orange Village Township Jennifer Credidio, Esq., McManimon Scotland Jon Drill, Esq., Board of Adjustment Attorney, Raritan Twp./ Clinton Twp./Greenwich Twp. Michael Drulis, Assistant Business Administrator, New Brunswick City Caroline Ehrlich, Director, Woodbridge Redevelopment Agency Albert Ellis, Planning Board, Watchung Borough Joseph Franco Jr., Deputy Mayor, Wildwood Crest Borough Clifford Gibbons, Esq., NJLM Associate Counsel Owen Henry, Mayor, Old Bridge Township Lavonne Johnson, Planning Board Member, Willingboro Township

Thaddeus Kobylarz, Mayor, Chatham Boro Hector Lora, Mayor, Passaic City James Maley, Mayor, Collingswood Borough Alex McDonald, Administrator, Millburn Anthony Mercantante, Administrator, Director of Public Safety, Middletown Township Keiona Miller, Office of Local Government Assistance, NJ Department of Environmental Protection Frank Minor, Mayor, Logan Township Janice S. Mironov, Mayor, East Windsor Township; NJLM Past President Carol Sabo, Mayor, West Cape May Cathy Wilson, Deputy Mayor, Morris Township Dr. Josephy Youngblood II, Senior Vice President, Extrernal Affairs, Kean University

Representatives of:

Community Recreation Society of New Jersey New Jersey Planning Officials New Jersey Society of Municipal Engineers

Intra Municipal Affairs Committee

Chairperson: Paul Muir, Mayor, Bethlehem Township

Deputy Chairperson: Paul Tomasko, *Mayor, Alpine Borough; Member, NJLM Executive Board*

Ravinder Bhalla, Mayor, Hoboken City Brian Chabarek, Municipal Attorney Barry Conway, Mayor, Burlington City William Curtis, Mayor, Bay Head Borough; Member, NILM Executive Board Kim Duva, Assistant Township Administrator, Bloomfield Josephine (Jo) Hochman, Councilmember, South Brunswick Township Shawn Klein, Council Member, Livingston Erin Knoedler, Administrator, Cherry Hill Phil Kramer, Mayor, Franklin Township (Somerset) Veronica Laureigh, Administrator, Lacey Township Marc Pfeiffer, Former DLGS Deputy Director William Pikolycky, Mayor, Woodbine Borough; NJLM Immediate Past President Guy Piserchia, Deputy Mayor, Long Hill Township; Member NJLM Executive Board Marlena Schmid, Business Administrator, West Windsor Township Matthew Watkins, NJLM Labor Consultant Kim-Marie White, Administrator/Clerk, Eastampton Township Michael Wildes, Mayor, Englewood City

Representatives of:

American Public Works Association Building Officials Association of New Jersey Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey Municipal Electrical Inspectors Association of New Jersey New Jersey Fire Prevention and Protection Association New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys New Jersey Municipal Management Association New Jersey State Municipal Prosecutors Association New Jersey State Plumbing Inspectors Association Registrars Association of New Jersey

Tax & Finance

Chairperson: Jon Rheinhardt, *GFOA Past President; Chief Financial Officer, Bergen County*

Deputy Chairperson: Anthony Fanucci, *Mayor, Vineland City; Member, NJLM Executive Board*

Giovanni D. Ahmad, Manager, Weehawken Township Mark S. Anderson, Esq., NJLM Associate Counsel Jillian Barrick, Business Administrator, Morristown Town Dave Brown, Administrator, Ocean Township (Monmouth) Michael Capabianco, Administrator, Jamesburg James Cassella, NJLM Past President Matthew Cavallo, Administrator, Palisades Wyckoff Twp. Jason Cilento, Mayor, Dunellen John Coiro, Mayor, Totowa Borough Charles Cuccia, Administrator, Little Falls Township David M. DelVecchio, NJLM Past President Gregory Fehrenbach, Government Management Advisors LLC Jason Gabloff, Administrator, Mendham Township Mark Gyorf, Mayor, Morris Township Michael Inganamort, Mayor, Chester Township Susan Jacobucci, Administrator, Paulsboro Borough Sam Joshi, Mayor, Edison Janice Kovach, Mayor, Clinton Town, NJLM Past President Colleen Lapp, Chief Financial Officer, Middletown Twp. Michele Lee, Mayor, High Bridge Mark LoGrippo, Councilmember, Westfield Town Stephen LoIacono, Administrator, North Arlington Borough Adrian Mapp, Mayor, Plainfield City Jason Martucci, Division of Local Government Services James J. Pittinger, Mayor, Lebanon Borough Nicholas Platt, Committeeperson, Harding Township Jennifer Polidori, Councilmember, Pompton Lakes Joseph Tempesta Jr., Mayor, West Caldwell Township; NJLM Past President Brian Thomas, Councilmember, Neptune City Joseph A. Valenti, Procurement Specialist Jaclyn Veasy, Mayor, Evesham Township Michael Venezia, Mayor, Bloomfield Township; Member, NJLM Executive Board Millard Wilkinson, NJLM Past President

Representatives of:

Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey Government Finance Officers Association of New Jersey Governmental Purchasing Association of New Jersey Tax Collectors and Treasurers Association of New Jersey

Members of the 2023 Legislature

District

District			
1	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman		
2	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman	Don Guardian	
3	Senator Assemblywoman Assemblywoman	.Bethanne McCarthy-Patrick	
4	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman		
5	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman		
6	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman	Louis D. Greenwald	
7	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman	Herb Conaway Jr.	
8	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman	Michael Torrissi Jr.	
9	Senator Assemblywoman		
10	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman		
11	Senator Assemblywoman	Kim Eulner	
12	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman	Samuel D. Thompson Robert D. Clifton Alex Sauickie	
13	Assemblywoman	Declan O'Scanlon Jr. Vicky Flynn Gerry Scharfenberger	
14	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman		
15	Senator Assemblywoman Assemblyman	Verlina Reynolds-Jackson	
16	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman	Roy Freiman	
17	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman	Joe Danielsen	

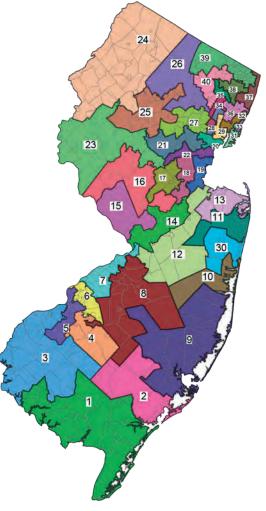
District

18	Assemblyman	Patrick J. Diegnan Jr. Sterley S. Stanley Robert J. Karabinchak
19	Senator Assembly Speaker Assemblywoman	Craig J. Coughlin
20	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman	Reginald Atkins
21		Michele Matsikoudis
22	Senate President Assemblywoman Assemblyman	Linda S. Carter
23	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman	Douglas J. Steinhardt John DiMaio Erik Peterson
24	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman	Parker Space
25	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman	Brian Bergen
26	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman	Christian E. Barranco
27	Senator Assemblywoman Assemblyman	Mila M. Jasey
28	Senator Assemblyman Assemblywoman	
29	Senator Assemblywoman	Eliana Pintor Marin
30	Senator Assemblyman Assemblyman	
31	Assemblywoman	Sandra B. Cunningham Angela V. McKnight William B. Sampson IV
32	Senator Assemblywoman	Angelica M. Jimenez
33	Senator Assemblywoman	Annette Chaparro
34	Assemblyman	

District

35	Senator Nellie Pou Assemblywoman Shavonda E. Sumter Assemblyman Benjie E. Wimberly
36	Senator Paul A. Sarlo Assemblyman Clinton Calabrese Assemblyman Gary S. Schaer
37	Senator Gordon M. Johnson Assemblywoman Shama A. Haider Assemblywoman Ellen J. Park
38	Senator Joseph A. Lagana Assemblywoman Lisa Swain Assemblyman P. Christopher Tully
39	Senator Holly T. Schepisi Assemblyman Robert Auth Assemblywoman DeAnne C. DeFuccio
40	Senator Kristin M. Corrado Assemblyman Christopher P. DePhillips Assemblyman Kevin J. Rooney

New Jersey State Legislative Districts







Senator Renee C. Burgess

A lifelong resident of Irvington, Senator Burgess has served the community as a member of the Irvington Township Municipal Council since 2014. Her path to elected office began in 2000 when she became the District Leader for Irvington's South Ward 2. Burgess later was elected to the Irvington School Board, serving 2003-2014, including terms as Vice President and President.

Burgess founded and is the president of the Thurgood Marshall Area Block Association and is the Committee Chair of the Irvington South Ward Democratic Committee. In 2014 she was elected to the Irvington Municipal Council as Council Member-At-Large and was appointed President in 2019.

She was employed over 10 years in Customer Service and payroll at Merck Pharmaceutical Company; six years at CA One Services, Newark Airport; and, more than 11 years as an Asset Manager for CIT Capital in Livingston. Burgess received numerous awards and acknowledgments for her performance and leadership skills in these roles.

The new Senator was also previously employed by the Township of Irvington as the Purchasing Clerk before assuming the position of Payroll and Purchasing Specialist and then the Supervisor of Accounts and Human Resource Administrator for the Irvington Housing Authority,

Her awards and honors include: Community Worker of the Year Award; International Women's Day Award; Tony Vauss Civic Association Community Award; Children Stand Higher Award; and, IBOE and the District Leader Service Award for 10 years of service.

She was a student of St. Leo's, Essex Catholic Girls High School and Irvington High School. Burgess earned her Associates Degree in Business at Essex County College, her Bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership from Pillar College and her Master's in Public Affairs and Administration from Metropolitan College of New York.

Her daughter, Giovana, is a college graduate and current teacher at a charter school in Newark.

Senator Douglas J. Steinhardt Douglas J. Steinhardt was the first five-term

Douglas J. Steinhardt was the first five-term Mayor in Lopatcong Township history, serving from 2000 to 2014. He was elected Chairman of the Warren County Republican Committee in 2004 and Chairman of the New Jersey Republican State Committee in November 2017.

Steinhardt's New Jersey roots run deep. He grew up on the same Warren County farm where his parents still live.

He is a graduate of Belvidere High School (1987), Gettysburg College (1991), and Widener University School of Law (1994) and is a proud Eagle Scout (1983). After law school, Steinhardt returned to Warren County to practice law with his father, who retired in 2005. That same year, the Senator opened a law firm around the corner from his home, where he still works today.

He is the founder and co-chairman of the Warren County Addiction Awareness Task Force. He also helped found and co-chairs the County Mental Health Task Force, which works to end the stigma associated with mental illness and helps connect County residents to needed services. He has served as general

counsel to Law Enforcement Against Drugs (L.E.A.D.), on the campaign committee for Abilities of Northwest Jersey, the Board of Overseers of Widener Commonwealth Law School, and is a Certified, Red Cross Volunteer.

He is married to wife, Trudy, and they are the proud parents of Tia and Douglas Jr. Tia is a graduate of Moravian College and Villanova and the Vice President of Development for a national advertising and communications company. Douglas Jr. is a sophomore at Jacksonville University.



Representative Alex Sauickie, District 12

A lifelong resident of Jackson Township, Alex Sauickie was sworn in as assemblyman in September 2022. Previously, he was a Jackson Township councilman from 2019 to 2022, serving as vice president and later president in 2020.

He is a veteran advisor in the global financial technology market and heads wealth management services for Fidelity Information Services Inc., a multinational payment services provider based in Jacksonville, FL.

He began his career with Merrill Lynch in 1994, where he helped develop the electronic trading platform Merrill Edge, and went on to become chief executive and operating officer of multiple financial software companies. He earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration and marketing in 1993 from Trenton State College (now The College of New Jersey).

He also served seven years as a board member of the Kimball Medical Center Foundation (now Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus), with two years as chairman.

An avid marathoner and Ironman triathlete, he is a father of five and resides in Jackson Township with his wife, Maggie. 🕽