Susan Gouveia

From: Lashway, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:21 AM
To: Canning, Sean
Cc: Susan Gouveia
Subject: FW: NJCM Mayors Information Bulletin: Important Interest Arbitration Update

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From: New Jersey Conference of Mayors [mailto:njcm@njcm.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 4:17 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: NJCM Mayors Information Bulletin: Important Interest Arbitration Update

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF MAYORS INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Important Interest Arbitration Update

On Monday, March 24 2014, both houses of the legislature introduced and took committee action on identical arbitration bills, Assembly Bill A-3067 and Senate Bill S-1869. These bills revise the law governing police and fire interest arbitration, maintaining the "one bite of the apple" provision and allows arbitrators to render awards in excess of the 2% cap in certain circumstances.

Please click here for a summary of changes in the proposed legislation.

Also, please click here, for a copy of proposed Senate Bill S-1869 (please especially note lines 35-48 on page 8 continued onto lines 1-9 on page 9 "one bite of the apple" provision).

The New Jersey Conference of Mayors opposes the retention of that provision in the legislation as well as the provision of changing from random draw of arbitrators back to the old method of selecting three names from a panel and the provision allowing an arbitrator to grant wage increases up to 3%.

NJCM encourages you to contact your state legislators and the Governor's office and encourage them to modify the proposed legislation as follows:

1---Amend the "one bite of the apple " provision so that the 2% cap provision would apply to every arbitration award in the future.

2---Amend the proposed legislation to eliminate the provision to allow awards up to 3% in cases of increased employee health insurance premium payments and saving from reductions in force size.

3---Amend the proposed legislation to maintain the current practice of

random panel selection of arbitrators which has proven to be much more effective than the old select 3 names from the panel method.

4---Amend the proposed legislation to permanently extend the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards.

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