

NEW JERSEY STATE AFL-CIO

106 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608
(609) 989-8730
FAX (609) 989-8734
www.njafclcio.org



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June 25, 2012

Dear Members of the New Jersey State Senate:

**Re: Please Support S-2063 the “Medical Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act,”
S-2500 the “Building our Future Bond Act” &
S-2020 which revises The Transportation Trust fund**

The New Jersey State AFL-CIO respectfully asks for your support of the above two bills.

Working with the Higher Education Healthcare Coalition which consists of 13 different unions representing 30,000 unionized employees at UMDNJ, Rutgers and Rowan, we thank the sponsors for including significant protections for workers on the issues of collective bargaining, civil service, seniority, maintenance of benefits, maintenance of collective bargaining units as well as layoffs, in the Medical Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act (S-2063: Norcross / Vitale / Sweeney). The legislation also maintains all healthcare and community services provided by UMDNJ and University Hospital as well as continuing the spirit and practice of the Newark Agreements.

Passage of the “Building our Future Bond Act” (S-2500: Sweeney / Kean / Vitale) will modernize campus facilities and create a learning environment that will not only help increase student achievement and aid faculty but it will help keep New Jersey students here in New Jersey when they go to college. The act will also help to create jobs in the construction industry during this period of high unemployment.

Finally, we ask for your support of S-2020 (Holzapfel / Singer) which makes changes necessary to support the State’s Capital Transportation Program for FY 2012-2016. This legislation will help ensure funding for vital infrastructure projects and will also provide much needed jobs in the construction industry during this period of painfully high unemployment.

Thank you for your consideration and we ask for your support of these three bills.

Sincerely,

Charles Wowkanech
President

Laurel Brennan
Secretary-Treasurer

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