

# Governments Relations News

submitted by Graceann Lepore

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At the GR meeting, the Path to Progress bill was discussed. Important to know:

- The posted bill would create a panel committee; it passed in the Senate
  - o This bill would have created a panel that would be able to make recommendations regarding issues important to NJEA and NJREA
- When the bill got to Governor Murphy's desk it was left to die – this is what is referred to as a "Pocket Veto."
- The bill has not yet been reposted.
- Contact local legislators about their "Yes" votes – ask "Why did you vote against Collective Bargaining?"

Going forward, we are all encouraged to try to attend any upcoming Lobby Days. As the daytime face of the NJEA, we need to show up in Trenton and ask questions to hold our Legislators accountable. Keep your eyes open for notices about Lobby Days.

Bills to watch and Take Action on:

S-993/A-631: Legislation that provides limited due process for education support professional, so that paraprofessionals, secretaries, bus drivers, and other ESPs cannot be fired for political reasons or disciplined without cause. As with teacher tenure, disputes of such issues would be resolved through binding arbitration.

It's time for Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin to show they value and respect the contributions of ESPs to New Jersey's public schools. Call and tell them to post the bills for a vote:

**S-993 Senate President Steve Sweeney 856-251-9801**

**A-631 Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin 732-855-7441**

\*Out of state members can write to NJ Legislators and let them know how the NJ laws affect them.

## 2020 Election!

For great, up-to-date information on the candidates for the 2020 Presidential Election, NEA.org offers a lot of facts and information on all of the candidates.

## Treasurer's Report

Checking Account	May 1, 2019	Balance	\$35,739.81
(5/1-8/31, 2019)		Deposits	5,858.00
(5/1-8/31, 2019)		Expenses	9,737.41
	August 31, 2019	Balance	\$31,860.40
Scholarship	May 1, 2019	Balance	\$16,111.11
(5/1-8/31, 2019)		Deposits	830.00
(5/1-8/31, 2019)		Expenses	3,240.00
	August 31, 2019	Balance	\$13,701.11