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March 12, 2010

The Honorable Donald Norcross
Senate of New Jersey
Brooklawn Shopping Plaza
Route 130 & Browning Rd.
Brooklawn, NJ 08030

The Honorable Kevin J. O'Toole
Senate of New Jersey
155 Route 46 West
Suite 108
Wayne, NJ 07470

The Honorable Paul D. Moriarty
General Assembly of New Jersey
129 Johnson Road
Suite 1
Turnersville, NJ 08012

Dear Sens. Norcross and O'Toole and Assemblyman Moriarty,

I am writing to you regarding S-1730 and A-2478, which would require employees of government and public institutions in New Jersey to live within the state's boundaries. As a fellow state lawmaker, I appreciate the budgetary constraints facing New Jersey. Nevertheless, I urge you not to enact S-1730 or A-2478 as currently drafted as it would place an undue hardship on current public employees who reside just across the border in Pennsylvania.

As the state representative for the Newtown-Yardley area in Pennsylvania, I represent numerous constituents who serve New Jersey and its residents as teachers, firefighters, police officers, and in many other capacities as employees of state, county, and local public entities as well as public authorities, boards, agencies, commissions, and state colleges and universities.

Your proposal would have an adverse impact on those constituents and their families, who have arranged their lives in reliance on being able to work in New Jersey while living here in Pennsylvania.

For that reason, I respectfully request that you amend your bill to grandfather all existing employees from the residency requirements that you are proposing. I would welcome an opportunity to meet with you in an effort to resolve this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Santarsiero", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Santarsiero

CC: Governor Chris Christie
Governor Edward G. Rendell
Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney
Senate Majority Leader Barbara Buono
Senate Minority Leader Thomas H. Kean Jr.
Assembly Speaker Sheila Y. Oliver
Assembly Majority Leader Joseph Cryan
Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCroce