



ADVOCACY & MANAGEMENT GROUP

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NJAASC Lobby Report

January 21st, 2026

Legislative Update

The Legislature concluded what is referred to as its “Lame Duck” session on January 12th with a flurry of bills passed in both houses and sent to the Governor’s desk for his action. Following this, he has ten days to sign any of them into law. The new legislative session began on January 13th with its reorganization meeting and the swearing in of new Assemblymembers. This legislative session is two years and will continue through January 2028. We anticipate that the Legislature will meet regularly over the next few months as it approaches its budget season. We will track relevant bill re-introductions and share updates as the session progresses.

Below is a list of the new, incoming Assemblymembers that were sworn in on January 13th, 2026 for their first term:

Legislative District 2: Marueen Rowan
Legislative District 8: Anthony Angelozzi
Legislative District 25: Marisa Sweeney
Legislative District 20: Eduardo Rodriguez
Legislative District 21: Andrew Macurdy and Vincent Kearney
Legislative District 28: Chigozie Onyema
Legislative District 31: Jerry Walker
Legislative District 32: Katie Brennen and Ravi Bhalla
Legislative District 33: Larry Wainstein
Legislative District 35: Kenyatta Stewart

Following the elections this past November, the Democrats will maintain their majority in all three houses going into the new session. Governor-elect Mikie Sherrill won the election in a landslide and also flipped several Assembly seats from Republican to Democrat, giving the Assembly Democrats their largest majority in decades.

Governor-elect Mikie Sherrill has announced several key cabinet and senior staff appointments in advance of her January 20th inauguration, establishing the leadership team that will guide her administration.

Key Cabinet and Agency nominations (as of this writing on 1/16/26) include:

- Department of Health: Raynard Washington (nominee)
- Department of Banking and Insurance: Susan Ochs (nominee)
- Department of Environmental Protection: Ed Potosnak (nominee)
- Secretary of State: Lieutenant Governor-elect Dr. Dale G. Caldwell.
- Attorney General: Jennifer Davenport (nominee)
- State Treasurer: Aaron Binder (nominee)
- Chief Innovation Officer: David Cole, (retained)
- State Comptroller: Shirley Emehelu (nominee)
- Department of Community Affairs Commissioner: Jacquelyn A. Suárez, (retained)
- Department of Human Services Commissioner: Dr. Stephen Cha (nominee)
- Department of Military Affairs: Brig. Gen. Yvonne L. Mays (nominee)
- Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner: Vincent Solomeno (nominee)

Key members of the Governor-elect’s senior leadership team include:

- Alex Ball, Chief of Staff
- Tim Lydon, Chief Counsel
- Chief Operating Officer, Kellie Doucette

Ambulatory Care Facility Assessment Changes Signed into Law: On June 30, 2025, as part of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget, Governor Phil Murphy signed into law the “Healthcare Finance Enhancement Act” which brought significant changes to the assessment of ambulatory care facilities (ACFs). Prior to the new law, ACFs were required to pay a 2.95% assessment on gross receipts over \$300,000, with a cap on the assessment of \$350,000. Under the new law, beginning July 1, 2025, the assessment was reduced to 2.5% of gross receipts, while both the floor of \$300,000 and the cap of \$350,000 were removed. Further, while certain facilities, such as one (1) room surgical practices, were previously exempt from the assessment, these facilities will now be subject to the same assessment.

At the end of last session, **S-5015** was sent to the Governor’s desk. As of this writing on January 16th, 2026, the bill is awaiting his action. The bill would reinstate a \$2,000,000 cap on the existing methodology for the ambulatory care assessment. Based on discussions we had, we learned that the bill was a result of negotiations between Memorial Sloan Kettering and the Murphy Administration, after Memorial Sloan Kettering aggressively pushed back on the tax changes this past budget cycle and the Murphy Administration concluded it may be in a vulnerable legal position and believed that, if challenged in court, there was a meaningful risk the ACF tax could be struck down. As a result, the Administration agreed to a compromise: reinstating a \$2 million cap on the ACF tax. The Office of Legislative Services confirmed that the three below ambulatory care facilities will be affected under this new bill:

Facility	Current Annual Assessment	Annual Assessment Under Bill	Difference
Memorial Sloan Kettering – Monmouth	\$8,625,020	\$2,000,000	\$6,625,020
Memorial Sloan Kettering – Bergen	\$6,752,506	\$2,000,000	\$4,752,506
Memorial Sloan Kettering – Cancer Center at Baskin	\$5,937,781	\$2,000,000	\$3,937,781
TOTAL	\$21,315,307	\$6,000,000	\$15,315,307

New Jersey Department of Labor Rule Proposal to Implement the Pay and Benefits Transparency Law

The New Jersey pay and benefits transparency law went into effect on June 1, 2025. In September 2025, the Department of Labor proposed administrative regulations to implement the new law. Under the law, workers in New Jersey have the right to know the pay, benefits, and other compensation programs that an employer is offering *before* applying for a new job or transfer opportunity. The **New Jersey pay and benefits transparency law** requires employers to provide this information in postings for these types of opportunities. The Pay Transparency law also requires that employers make reasonable efforts to make current employees aware of promotional opportunities. The law covers job postings in any format, including job search websites, print advertisements, company newsletters, emails, social media and more.

Under the law, Covered employers are any person, company, corporation, firm, labor organization, or association which:

- Has 10 or more employees over 20 or more calendar weeks; *and*
- Does business, employs persons, or takes applications for employment within New Jersey.

Public employers, including the State, counties, and local government bodies are covered under the Pay Transparency law.

Written comments on the proposal were due by November 14th, 2025. The full proposal is available [here](#). We are monitoring this rule proposal and will provide additional information as it becomes available.