# NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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July 6th, 2017

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

Speaker Vincent Prieto
New Jersey General Assembly
Trenton, New Jersey

Mr. Speaker,

Even after a long few days and the re-opening of state government, I'm writing today to urge you to reconvene the General Assembly next week to take up pressing issues affecting our great state.

First and foremost, I firmly believe the General Assembly needs to pass legislation that backdates a paid vacation day for all state workers who were unable to report to their jobs due to the state government shutdown on Monday, July 3rd. Tens of thousands of state workers should not be penalized when they were ready and able to report to work and do their jobs.

Likewise, due to a grievous error on the part of the Office of Legislative Services, both the Assembly and the Senate were unable to vote on A-4840/S3311, legislation that requires early retirement incentive offer before public safety department layoffs in municipalities in need of stabilization and recovery when it was posted to their respective board lists on Thursday, June 29th. The Senate passed floor amendments to correct the mistake on 6/29 and voted the bill out of their house on July 4th. The Assembly floor amendments were made on 6/29, but because the board remained opened from Friday until Tuesday, the Assembly could not take up final passage.

This legislation is critically important to right-sizing Atlantic City's public safety departments while protecting workers who have provided service to our community for over 20 years. They should also not be penalized because of an error by OLS and the shutdown. It's imperative that we get this bill on the Governor's desk before legislators take a "break" from session.

Mr. Speaker, our work isn't done. I respectfully urge you to call the Assembly back to into session to take up these key issues that affect government workers.

Very Sincerely,

Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo

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