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March 12, 2007

Dear Members of the New Jersey State Senate:

**RE: Support S-2458 (Madden) Strengthens Enforcement of the Prevailing Wage Act  
Concerning Debarred Contractors  
&  
Support S-2457 (Doria) Clarifies the Application of the Prevailing Wage Act Concerning  
State Owned Property**

The New Jersey State AFL-CIO supports S-2458 & S-2457 and respectfully ask for your support. S-2458 seeks to end a practice that debarred contractors use in order to continue bidding on public works projects. This practice allows these contractors to circumvent the Prevailing Wage Law and to continue "business as usual" by simply creating a new business entity which in "name only" is no longer on the debarment list, but in practice, often has the same management as well as operating in the same manner as the previous company.

These types of contractors are not only violating the spirit of the Prevailing Wage Act, but are flagrantly misleading Department of Labor officials. This leads to unlawful access to the public bidding process and also adversely affects workers by allowing contractors with a history of Prevailing Wage violations to continue to cheat workers of wages dictated by law.

S-2457 seeks to clarify language in regard to the application of the Prevailing Wage and closes an existing loophole. Currently, there is a question as to whether the Prevailing Wage applies to construction projects being built on publicly owned land as opposed to land being leased by the same entity to a private entity that is the signatory of the contract. This bill clarifies that this type of contract would be covered under the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act.

The New Jersey State AFL-CIO thanks Senate President Codey for posting these bills and we respectfully ask for your support.

Sincerely,

Charles Wowkanech  
President

Laurel Brennan  
Secretary/Treasurer

CW:LB:jmn  
OPEIU:153