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December 6, 2007

Dear Members of the Assembly Labor Committee:

RE: Support A-4001 (Fischer / Egan) Prevailing Wage Requirement for Business Employment Incentive Program (BEIP)

The New Jersey State AFL-CIO supports A-4001 that would close a loophole and reinforces the Legislature's intent, set forth in the existing law, that any construction project that receives financial assistance through the "Business Employment Incentive Program" (BEIP) as a condition of receiving financial assistance from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, is required to pay the prevailing wage.

Although legislation was signed into law in 2002 that required the payment of the prevailing wage for any construction project receiving EDA assistance, certain accounting gimmicks have been taken advantage of to circumvent this requirement. A-4001 would end this practice.

For this reason, the New Jersey State AFL-CIO respectfully asks for your support of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Charles Wowkanech
President

Laurel Brennan
Secretary/Treasurer

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OPEIU:153