

NJSSA Lobby Report for Board Meeting
November 2024

Legislative / Policy Update

The Legislature has met regularly over the past few months and will now take a short break for most of the month of November. At this time, there is only one Assembly quorum scheduled for November 14th. Committees and voting sessions will resume in December. As of this time, there is a round of committee meetings scheduled for both the Seante and Assembly and a voting session. We are currently in the first year of a two-year legislative session, so all bills that we are tracking will continue to be active through January 2026.

We continue to track the following bills that have had some movement over the past few months:

- **S-3533** (McKnight/Bramnick) Establishes certain guidelines for health insurance carriers concerning step therapy protocols.

This bill was unanimously approved by the Senate Commerce Committee on October 10, 2024 and was referred to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

- **S-2988** (Gopal/Pou) Extends certain pay parity regarding telemedicine and telehealth for one additional year.

This bill was unanimously approved by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee on October 8, 2024 and was referred to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

- **A-1884** (Conaway/Stanley/Speight) Establishes act of disseminating misinformation as professional misconduct for health care professionals.

This bill was approved by the Assembly Health Committee on September 23, 2024 and was referred to the Assembly Regulated Professions Committee.

Election/Political Updates

There were no State legislative races since New Jersey is in an “off year” election cycle. The Governor and entire 80-member General Assembly will be up for election in November 2025. There are currently several candidates on both sides of the aisle that have announced their campaigns and are actively running for Governor. Assemblymembers are also beginning to announce their election and re-election bids.

Republicans made shocking headway in New Jersey, with Vice President Kamala Harris only winning the state 52% to 47% against President-elect Donald Trump.

Out of New Jersey's 12 congressional districts, there was only one race that was expected to be competitive, but incumbent Republican Tom Kean, Jr. defeated his Democratic challenger Sue Altman in the seventh congressional district by more than what was predicted. In the tenth congressional district, Democrat LaMonica McIver also won and will serve her first full term in Congress, following being sworn in this past September filling the seat of the late Congressman Payne.

While there were no state legislative races this year, there will still be a few changes to the Legislature due to the elections. The Chairman of the Assembly Health Committee, Herb Conaway, ran and won for Congress in the third congressional district, filling the seat of Andy Kim, who was elected to the Senate. The current Chairwoman of the Senate Commerce Committee, Nellie Pou, also won in the ninth congressional district, filling the seat of the late Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. Both of these committees will therefore have a new Chair in the coming months.

Finally, Assemblywoman Pam Lampitt, who is the Chair of the Assembly Education Committee and Vice-Chair of the Assembly Health Committee, announced earlier this year that she would leave the Legislature at the end of the year, and she just won her race for Camden County Clerk. Both of these committees will therefore have a new Chair, and Vice-Chair, respectively, in the coming months.