

APPENDIX



NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

D. Todd Sidor, Director of Government Affairs
New Jersey Law Center • One Constitution Square
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-1500
(732) 249-5000 • Fax (732) 249-2815

NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION POSITION ON ACR-81 WHICH PROPOSES A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REMOVING GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

The New Jersey State Bar Association supports ACR-81 (Wisniewski), which proposes a constitutional amendment to remove gubernatorial appointment of certain municipal court judges.

The NJSBA's Board of Trustees and Legislative Committee voted to support this constitutional amendment because we believe that it will streamline court administration in New Jersey's municipal courts. First, the bill will provide a process to appoint inter-municipal court judges which takes into account the concerns of the municipalities. This could have the impact of getting municipal court judges appointed more quickly. Second, given recent efforts to regionalize municipal services, this constitutional amendment allows municipalities to retain the judicial appointment authority that they have with a single municipal court in an inter-municipal court situation. We firmly believe that New Jersey voters rejected this legislation because they did not understand how the legislation would benefit their communities by promoting the consolidation of services while allowing municipalities to continue to provide input into the jurist selected to hear municipal court matters.

Again, the NJSBA supports ACR-81 for the reason above. For further information or questions on this matter please contact D. Todd Sidor at (732) 937-7544 or tsidor@njsba.com.

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