

New Jersey Catholic Conference 149 North Warren Street Trenton, New Jersey 08608 609-989-1120

ACTION ALERT

ISSUE:

The Opportunity Scholarship Act (S-1872/A-2810) currently is assigned to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee. The bill would provide corporate tax scholarships to students who fit the criteria of both family income (no more than 2.5 times the poverty level) and residence in a district containing a failing school. The bill would be funded by corporate tax credits for corporations who choose to participate in the program.

OUR

POSITION: The New Jersey Catholic Conference and the New Jersey Network of Catholic

School Families strongly support this important bill.

ACTION: Please help us as soon as possible:

1. Email, call, or visit the office of Senator Paul Sarlo and <u>respectfully</u> ask him to schedule the bill for a hearing and a vote in the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee (See attached list for contact information).

- 2. Email, call, or visit the office of Assemblyman Albert Coutinho and <u>respectfully</u> ask him to schedule the bill for a hearing and vote in the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee. (See attached list for contact information).
- 3. Email, call, or visit the office of members of the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee (see attached list) to ask for their support for this legislation.
- 4. Email, call, or visit the office of members of the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee (see attached list) to express your support for A-2810.
- 5. Email, call, or visit the office of your State Senator regarding the legislation and indicate your support for S-1872. Ask that your State Senator speak with his or her colleagues on the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee indicating that this is an important bill for your Senator's constituents.
- 6. Email, call, or visit the office of members of the New Jersey Assembly in your own district to ask for their support for A-2810. Ask them to speak with their colleagues on the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee to express their support.

You may also use the New Jersey Catholic Conference Capwiz system which can be accessed at:

http://www.capwiz.com/njcathconf/home/

A SUMMARY OF THE LEGISLATION, AS WELL AS A SERIES OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS TO THE MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS, IS ATTACHED TO THIS ALERT.