



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DR. MARGIE DONLON
Assemblywoman, 11th District

VIN GOPAL
Senator, 11th District
Majority Conference Leader

LUANNE PETERPAUL
Assemblywoman, 11th District

Press Release

For Immediate Release

July 21, 2025

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Gopal, Donlon and Peterpaul Call for Labor Department Pause on New Independent Contractor Rule

SHREWSBURY - Senator Vin Gopal, Assemblywoman Margie Donlon, and Assemblywoman Peterpaul sent the following letter this week requesting New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Robert Ansaro-Angelo pause a new rule that would redefine independent contractor status in the state, potentially creating serious disruptions for the state's businesses and employees.

In the letter, the Monmouth County legislators voiced their concerns that the proposed rule would hurt independent contractors by disrupting their relationships with small businesses, and creating new administrative burdens and new administrative costs that would impact consumer experiences. The letter is below.

Dear Commissioner Asaro-Angelo:

We are writing this letter to urge you respectfully to reconsider the New Jersey Department of Labor's proposed rulemaking under **N.J.A.C. 12:11**, which would redefine the standards for determining independent contractor status in New Jersey. While the proposed revisions are clearly well-intentioned, we have heard from numerous constituents across varied industries concerned about how this pending rule would impact their careers and businesses. In light of these concerns, we hope the proposed rulemaking can be paused to address what we believe would be unintended consequences if the rule were finalized.



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As currently proposed, we believe the revised rule would have far-reaching consequences, negatively impacting small business owners, employees, and consumers. Through the application of this proposed rule, employees who have chosen to work as independent contractors could see their relationships with small businesses disrupted, resulting in new administrative burdens on these businesses. Those disrupted relationships, and new administrative costs, may also impact consumer experiences.

Considering the broad impacts this rule change could have, we believe this change warrants further study, including a formal economic impact analysis. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "V. Gopal".

Vin Gopal
Senator, 11th District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "M. Donlon".

Margie Donlon
Assemblywoman
11th District

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "L. Peterpaul".

Luanne Peterpaul
Assemblywoman
11th District

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Senator Vin Gopal, a lifelong resident of Monmouth County elected in 2018, serves as Senate Majority Conference Leader and Chair of the Senate Education Committee. Assemblywoman Dr. Margie Donlon, a practicing physician, serves on the Assembly Health and the Tourism, Gaming & the Arts Committees; Assemblywoman Luanne Peterpaul, Esq., serves on the Assembly Commerce, Economic Development & Agriculture and the Aging & Human Services Committees. They represent residents of Allenhurst, Asbury Park, Bradley Beach, Colts Neck, Deal, Eatontown, Fair Haven, Freehold Borough, Freehold Township, Interlaken, Loch Arbour, Long Branch, Neptune City, Neptune Township, Ocean Township, Red Bank, Shrewsbury Borough, Shrewsbury Township, and Tinton Falls in the State Senate and State Assembly.