



## NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

October 28, 2010

Honorable Gerald B. Green  
Chairman, Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee  
17 Watchung Avenue  
Plainfield, New Jersey 07060-1207

**RE: S-1956/A-2870** (*Whelan*)(*Polistina/Amodeo*)

Dear Chairman Green:

On behalf of the New Jersey Association of Counties (NJAC), I am pleased to inform you of our support of S-1956/A-2870, which permits certain county boards of chosen freeholders to publish notices of proposed or amended ordinances by title and summary; and of which has been referred to the Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee for consideration. Please note that on October 18<sup>th</sup> the Senate unanimously passed S-1956, and that we hope to reconcile the technical differences between the two pieces of legislation in Committee.

NJAC supports this legislation as it will save significant taxpayer dollars for county governments established pursuant to the "Optional County Charter Law." These counties include Atlantic, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, and Union. Although current law under N.J.S.A. 40:49-2 authorizes municipalities to publish ordinances in a newspaper in their entirety or by title and summary, N.J.S.A. 41A-1-101 mandates charter counties to publish ordinances in their entirety at a substantially higher cost. Please note that except for certain bond, capital expenditure, or health ordinances as required by specific statute, non-charter counties typically adopt resolutions at a much lower cost to publish.

At a time in which county governments are struggling to make ends meet while providing essential services, NJAC respectfully requests that the Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee have the opportunity to consider this important and timely legislation at one of its upcoming meetings. As always, thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

John G. Donnadio, Esq.  
Deputy Executive Director

cc: Honorable James Whelan  
Honorable Vincent J. Polistina  
Honorable John F. Amodeo  
Gerald Delrosso, Atlantic County Administrator  
James F. Ferguson, Atlantic County Counsel