

# ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR RELEASE:**

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Press Office

(609) 292-7065

**CONTACT:**

Assemblyman Fisher

(856) 455-1011

Assemblyman Burzichelli

(856) 251-9801

## **FISHER/BURZICHELLI BILL BANNING DUAL HEALTH COVERAGE FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS CONTINUES ADVANCING**

(TRENTON) – Assembly-approved legislation Assemblymen Douglas H. Fisher and John J. Burzichelli sponsored to ban dual taxpayer-paid health care coverage for state and local officials continues advancing toward law.

The bill was approved 80-0 by the Assembly in June and was released Monday by the Senate State Government Committee. Its Senate sponsors include Senate Majority Leader Stephen Sweeney (D-Gloucester) and Sen. Loretta Weinberg (D-Bergen).

“Taxpayer dollars are being wasted on dual health care plans for elected and appointed officials who hold more than one post,” said Fisher (D-Cumberland). “Forcing all dual-office holders to select one health care plan prevents a tremendous and unnecessary drain on vital state resources.”

The Fisher/Burzichelli measure (A-1405) would prohibit dual taxpayer-financed health care coverage for any state or local elected or appointed official who is eligible for health insurance coverage under more than one publicly financed plan. The legislation would require these officials to select coverage under only one government-sponsored health care plan.

“This is a tremendous opportunity to eliminate waste and save the state even more money,” said Burzichelli (D-Gloucester). “Public officials should not be given the luxury of having multiple health care plans when millions of New Jerseyans are still without even the most basic health insurance.”

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