

# PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS INTERESTS

... Let Us Be Your Advocate in Trenton

Despite an often challenging political climate, NJBIA's staff of full-time policy experts have won many probusiness victories. They have fought successfully for the passage of State laws that will lower your business taxes, help control health insurance costs, and reduce your regulatory burdens.

The NJBIA government affairs staff—who work exclusively for the benefit of NJBIA members—is hard at work in the current session of the Legislature, analyzing bills, testifying at hearings, and meeting with legislators.

When NJBIA isn't fighting antibusiness legislation, we are aggressively pursuing a probusiness legislative agenda. The Association's current agenda, contained in NJBIA's 2006-2007 *Public Policy Principles and Priorities*, aims to lower your cost of doing business, strengthen the State's business climate, and create new private-sector jobs.

NJBIA recently stopped legislation that would have been very costly to your company, examples being paid family leave and unlimited mental health coverage. But we also won significant probusiness victories, among them:

- Allowing tax savings for high-deductible health insurance plans and **Health Savings Accounts** in New Jersey; this will lower many employers' health insurance bills.
- Allowing businesses to **deduct net operating losses** on their State tax returns.

- Creating a **Business Ombudsman** in the NJ Board of Public Utilities to help companies shop for better electricity and gas rates and qualify for money-saving energy subsidies.

The NJBIA government affairs staff is also available to answer your questions. Want to find out how to comply with new laws? It would be hard to find a more knowledgeable group of State policy experts. And they work for you.



NJBIA Health Affairs Vice President Christine Stearns discusses the Association's health insurance reform agenda with Assemblyman Joseph Cryan, Chairman of the State Democratic Committee.

“NJBIA is right on top of all the business issues, and they deal with the Legislature and the Governor's Office extremely well.”

**JULIE STROUT**—  
Government Affairs Manager  
Jersey Central Power & Light Co., (A FirstEnergy Company)