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differences between the two for those who may be less familiar with our state government. For convenience and additional information, I have included information on voter registration, contact information for all of New Jersey's senators, and a reference guide for which towns are included in each of New Jersey's districts. My hope is that all of this material can be used to inform and empower education professionals to take action and make their voices heard.

Issue Letter One

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\bigcap	Senator	
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In 1975, Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, guaranteeing for the first time that public schools could not discriminate against children on the basis of disability. The act promised 'a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment' to every child with a disability. This landmark legislation has guided the field of special education for the nearly 45 years since its passage.

While this act and its subsequent renewals and amendments in years since have been crucial to the expansion of special education programming, it cannot continue without financial support. Time and time again, public schools throughout the nation have struggled to effectively fund special education, often denying children with special needs their rights as a result.

Although it is the responsibility of the states to allocate funding for special education, the states have not always acted with the best interest of these students in mind. While states often make efforts to appropriately fund public education, they are not always successful. For example, in Mississippi, a new House bill promises to increase funding for public education. However, advocates for special education worry that this influx of money will not be spent appropriately on special education, as it is at the discretion of the

New Jersey State Legislature

- Function is to enact laws
- Propose amendments with 3/5 vote
- Amendments must be put up to public vote
- Approval of judicial appointments
- Conduct impeachment proceedings
- Approve the annual budget
- 40 legislative districts
- Each district has about 210,000 people
- Each district has one Senator and two Reps.
- Elections held in November of odd years

Senate: 40 members

- Serve on a "2-4-4" cycle
- · Must be at least 30 years old
- Must be a NJ resident for 4 years
- Must live in the district they represent

General Assembly: 80 members

- Serve 2 year terms
- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must be a NJ resident for 2 years
- Must live in the district they represent

U.S. Congress

- Create and vote on laws that are 'necessary and proper'
- Override presidential vetoes with 2/3 majority
- Levy and collect taxes
- Regulate commerce
- Raise and maintain armed forces
- Declare war and approve treaties
- All explicit and implied powers

Senate: 100 members

- Serve 6 year terms
- Represent the entire state
- Must be at least 30 years old
- Must be a U.S. citizen (at least 9 years)



To register to vote in N



<u>District 9</u> - Barnegat, Barnegat Light, Bass River, Beach Haven, Beachwood, Berkeley, Eagleswood, Galloway, Harvey Cedars, Lacey, Little Egg Harbor, Long Beach, Ocean Gate, Ocean Township (Ocean), Pine Beach, Port Republic, Seaside Park, Ship Bottom, South Toms River, Stafford, Surf City, Tabernacle, Tuckerton, Washington (Burlington)!

<u>District 10</u> - Bay Head, Brick, Island Heights, Lakehurst, Lavallette, Manchester, Mantoloking, Point Pleasant Beach, Seaside Heights, Toms River!

<u>District 11</u> - Allenhurst, Asbury Park, Colts Neck, Deal, Eatontown, Freehold Borough, Freehold Township, Interlaken, Loch Arbour, Long Branch, Neptune, Neptune Township, Ocean Township (Monmouth), Red Bank, Shrewsbury Borough, Shrewsbury Township, Tinton Falls, West Long Branch!

<u>District 12</u> - Allentown, Chesterfield, Englishtown, Jackson, Manalapan, Matawan, Millstone (Monmouth), New Hanover, North Hanover, Old Bridge, Plumsted, Roosevelt, Upper Freehold, Wrightstown

District 20 - Elizabeth, Hillside, Roselle, Union (Union)!

<u>District 21</u> - Berkeley Heights, Bernards, Chatham Borough, Cranford, Far Hills, Garwood, Kenilworth, Long Hill, Mountainside, New Providence, Roselle Park, Springfield (Union), Summit, Warren, Watchung, Westfield!

<u>District 22</u>- Clark, Dunellen, Fanwood, Green Brook, Linden, Middlesex, North Plainfield, Plainfield, Rahway, Scotch Plains, Winfield!

<u>District 23</u> - Alexandria, Alpha, Bedminster, Bethlehem, Bloomsbury, Bound Brook, Bridgewater, Califon, Clinton, Clinton Township, Franklin (Hunterdon), Franklin (Warren), Frenchtown, Glen Gardner, Greenwich (Warren), Hackettstown, Hampton (Hunterdon), Harmony, High Bridge, Holland, Kingwood, Lebanon Borough, Lebanon Township, Lopatcong, Mansfield (Warren), Milford, Peapack-Gladstone, Phillipsburg, Pohatcong, Raritan (Somerset), South Bound Brook, Tewksbury, Union (Hunterdon), Washington Borough (Warren), Washington Township (Warren)!

<u>District 24</u> - Allamuchy, Andover Borough, Andover Township, Belvidere, Blairstown, Branchville, Byram, Frankford, Franklin (Sussex), Fredon, Frelinghuysen, Green, Hamburg, Hampton (Sussex), Hardwick, Hardyston, Hopatcong, Hope, Independence, Knowlton, Lafayette, Liberty, Montague, Mount Olive, Newton, Ogdensburg, Oxford, Sandyston, Sparta, Stanhope, Stillwater, Sussex, Vernon, Walpack, Wantage, White!

<u>District 25</u> - Bernardsville, Boonton, Boonton Township, Chester Borough, Chester Township, Denville, Dover, Mendham Borough, Mendham Township, Mine Hill, Morris, Morristown, Mount Arlington, Mountain Lakes, Netcong, Randolph, Rockaway Borough, Roxbury, Victory Gardens, Washington (Morris), Wharton!

<u>District 26</u> - Butler, Fairfield (Essex), Jefferson, Kinnelon, Lincoln Park, Montville, Morris Plains, North Caldwell, Parsippany-Troy Hills, Rockaway Township, Verona, West Caldwell, West Milford!

<u>District 27</u> - Caldwell, Chatham Township, East Hanover, Essex Fells, Florham Park, Hanover, Harding, Livingston, Madison, Maplewood, Millburn, Roseland, South Orange, West Orange!

District 28

District 29 - Belleville, Newark!

<u>District 30</u> - Avon-by-the-Sea, Belmar, Bradley Beach, Brielle, Farmingdale, Howell, Lake Como, Lakewood, Manasquan, Point Pleasant, Sea Girt, Spring Lake, Spring Lake Heights, Wall!

District 31 - Bayonne, Jersey City!

<u>District 32</u> - East Newark, Edgewater, Fairview, Guttenberg, Harrison (Hudson), Kearny, North Bergen, Secaucus, West New York

District 33 - Hoboken, Jersey City, Union City, Weehawken!

District 34 - Clifton, East Orange, Montclair, Orange!

District 35 - Elmwood Park, Garfield, Haledon, North Haledon, Paterson, Prospect Park!

<u>District 36</u> - Carlstadt, Cliffside Park, East Rutherford, Little Ferry, Lyndhurst, Moonachie, North Arlington, Passaic, Ridgefield, Ridgefield Park, Rutherford, South Hackensack, Teterboro, Wallington, Wood-Ridge!

<u>District 37</u> - Alpine, Bogota, Cresskill, Englewood, Englewood Cliffs, Fort Lee, Hackensack, Leonia, Northvale, Palisades Park, Rockleigh, Teaneck, Tenafly

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