

# New Jersey Catholic Conference

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## A C T I O N   A L E R T

### NONPUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION JOINT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATION AND SHARED SERVICES

**ISSUE:** The Joint Legislative Committee on Government Consolidation and Shared Services is one of the four joint committees formed to meet during the special session which arose as a result of the Budget stalemate in July of this past year. Nonpublic school transportation is an ongoing problem for parents of students in nonpublic schools. We believe that making this Committee aware of the issue and one possible solution would be useful prior to the committee making its report on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### OUR

**POSITION:** The New Jersey Catholic Conference and the New Jersey Network of Catholic School Families have worked toward more efficient nonpublic school transportation which serves both the parents and students in nonpublic schools and the taxpayers. To that end, we believe that the regionalization of nonpublic school transportation is, i.e. taking the transportation responsibility out of the hands of the local districts, is a potential solution.

#### ACTION:

Contact the members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Government Consolidation and Shared Services (see attached list) in person, by telephone, fax, or Email and deliver the message that nonpublic school transportation should be part of the recommendations on consolidation. A great deal of time and effort is wasted by local districts that are the initial responsible agent to investigate the potential for nonpublic school transportation on an annual basis. Regional entities in each county (possibly the current system of Consolidated Transportation Services Agencies) should be utilized first in order to begin the process of determining nonpublic school transportation.

Please tell horror stories of getting nonpublic school children to school, and add any other recommendations that you see as viable.

*Representing the Archdiocese of Newark, Diocese of Camden, Diocese of Metuchen,  
Diocese of Paterson, Diocese of Trenton, Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic and  
Our Lady of Deliverance Syriac Catholic Diocese*

**PLEASE ENACT THIS ALERT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT WE CAN INCLUDE THIS RECOMMENDATION AS PART OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE'S WORK WHICH ENDS IN MID-NOVEMBER.**

Thank you for your immediate cooperation.

GVC:sc

cc: Public Policy Committee

*E-mailed / Faxed communication*