

January 3, 2018

**Re: Daily Update**

- I. 2% Interest Arbitration Cap Update
- II. January Grants Posted
- III. Register Now for These Upcoming Seminars and Webinars

Dear Mayor:

**I. 2% Interest Arbitration Cap Update**

As of January 1, 2018, the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards has lapsed, at least temporarily, because the State Legislature has failed to take the necessary action to extend this important tool to contain property tax increases. This is not without precedent, as the cap lapsed at the end of March 2014 and was then extended in June 2014 with a retroactive enactment to ensure continuity.

[Please click here](#) for an article from Politico indicating that the “final” report from the Interest Arbitration Task Force will not be issued despite the December 31, 2017 deadline. Legislative leaders and the Governor-elect have all stated they wanted to see the final report before deciding on a course of action.

As you may know, the 217th State Legislature will end at midnight, Monday January 8th. The 218th Legislature will be sworn in on Tuesday, January 9. The League, along with our partners in the New Jersey Association of Counties and the New Jersey Conference of Mayors, will continue to advocate for the extension of the 2% interest arbitration cap until the cap is again extended.

Here’s what you can do in the meanwhile. Tomorrow, Assemblyman Declan O’Scanlon will make a motion to release from the Assembly State and Local Government Committee [A-2123](#), which he sponsors, and bring it to the floor for a vote. This legislation will permanently extend the cap on interest arbitration awards.

This tactic is often used to highlight legislation that is stuck in committee, and it is almost always met with a motion to table and is then defeated, which is likely to happen tomorrow. But to do so, a recorded vote to table the motion will be required.

So, we urge you to contact your Assembly representatives and ask them to support Assemblyman O’Scanlon’s motion on January 4 and support [A-2123](#); Urge your Representatives to bring A-2123 to the floor and vote in favor of the bill. To find your representative and their contact information please click, [here](#).

In doing so, you may want to make the following points.

- 1) The 2% levy cap is permanent; the 2% levy cap without the 2% interest arbitration cap is not sustainable and will inevitably lead to reductions in other important services (including reductions in force), property tax increases or a combination of both.
- 2) The existing statute which establishes the 9 points that arbitrators are to consider pre-dates the 2% cap and was ineffective in curtailing property tax increases, which was one of the reasons why the 2% interest arbitration cap was implemented in the first place.
- 3) The IA cap has worked, and according to the data provided in the September report by the Governor's appointees to the Interest Arbitration Task Force, has resulted in over \$530 million in savings to property taxpayers; the results and data provided in the September report have not been countered nor has there been any attempt to respond from union leadership.
- 4) Property taxes remain the #1 concern for our taxpayers and the IA cap has proven to be an effective tool to contain property tax increases.

Please continue outreach to your State representatives, the Legislative Leaders, Governor Christie, and Governor-Elect Murphy expressing the urgent need for the extension of the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards.

#### **Resources:**

- [Please click here](#) for the League's 2% IA cap page.
- Please [click here for the League's Town Crier](#) blog post on this issue.
- Editorial boards across the State support our call to extend the interest arbitration cap. To read these, please see the [League's 2% IA cap page](#).

#### **Contacts:**

Michael F. Cerra, Assistant Executive Director, [mcerra@njslom.org](mailto:mcerra@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x120.  
Lori Buckelew, Senior Legislative Analyst, [lbuckelew@njslom.org](mailto:lbuckelew@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x112.

## **II. January Grants Posted**

The League's January grants page has been posted and includes links to several federal funding opportunities. [Click here](#) to visit the Grant Resource Center.

The League's Grant Resource Center features links and resources to assist municipalities in their grant search.

Looking for a database of grants? Through a partnership with GrantStation, League members may sign up for a discounted membership to use their funding databases. Reserve through NJLM for up to 85% off! [Click here](#) for more information.

League Contact: Taran B. Samhammer, [tsamhammer@njslom.org](mailto:tsamhammer@njslom.org), (609) 695-3481 x124

## **III. Register Now for These Upcoming Seminars and Webinars**

### **a. Orientation for the Newly Elected, Re-elected, or Experienced**

**Saturday, January 6, 2018 8:30a.m.-3:30p.m.**

Hilton Meadowlands Hotel  
2 Meadowlands Plaza  
East Rutherford, NJ 07073

**OR**

**Saturday, January 20, 2018 8:30a.m.-3:30p.m.**

Hotel ML  
915 Route 73  
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar->

[Handouts](#)

**b. Budgeting for the Elected Official: Everything You Need to Know to Create, Balance, and Approve Your Municipalities' Budget**

**Saturday, February 24, 2018 8:30a.m.-2:00p.m.**

The Conference Center at Mercer  
1200 Old Trenton Rd West Windsor, NJ 08550 <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts>

**c. LEAGUE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**Sexual Harassment in the Workplace: What You Need to Know**

**February 28, 2018**

8:30a.m. to 12:30p.m

Doubletree Hotel  
700 Hope Road  
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

**CEU's:** CMFO/CCFO-4.0Off Mgmt/Anc; CTC-4.0 Gen/Sec;CPWM-4.0Govt; RMC-4.0 Prof Devel;QPA-4.0 Off Admin/Gen Duties;CPA-4.0 PD; NJCLE-4.0;PACLE-3.5;RPPO/RPPS-4.0M/S <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts>

**d. League Professional Development Webinar**

**“A Quick Review of Budget and Audit Updates”**

**March 2, 2018** 11:00a.m.-11:50a.m.

Location: Your Computer

**CEU’s:** CMFO/CCFO-1.0 Bud;CPWM-1.0 GOVT;RMC-1.0 Fin; QPA-1.0 Off Admin/Gen Duties RPP0/RPPS-1.0 M/S; CPA-1.0; NJCLE-1.0 <http://nj->

[nj-slom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts](http://nj-slom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts)

**e. League Professional Development Seminar**

**“Budget, Ethics, and DLGS Updates on Best Practices and Procurement”**

**March 8, 2018** 9:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Conference Center at Mercer

1200 Old Trenton Rd

West Windsor, NJ 08550

**CEU’s:** CMFO/CCFO-1.0 Acct,1.0 Bud;1.0 Fin/Debt Mgmt;1.0 Eth;CTC-1.0 Eth,1.0 Gen/Sec;CPWM-2.0 Govt,1.0 Eth; RMC-3.0 Fin, 1.0 Eth; QPA-1.0 P/P, 2.0 Off Admin/Gen Duties;1.0 Eth;CRP-3.0; CPA-3.0 FIN, 1.0 ETH; Registrar-1.0;PACLE-3.5\*NJCLE-4.0 including 1.0ETH;RPP0/RPPS- 2.0 M/S, 1.0 Eth, and 1.0 P/P <http://nj->

[nj-slom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts](http://nj-slom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts)

**f. 26th Annual Mayors’ Legislative Day**

**Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

The State House Annex

Committee Room 4

West State Street Trenton, New Jersey <http://nj->

[nj-slom.civicplus.com/542/Mayors-Legislative-Day-](http://nj-slom.civicplus.com/542/Mayors-Legislative-Day-)

[Photo-Albums](#)

**g. League Professional Development Seminar**

**Is South Jersey Getting its Fair Share Of Public Goods? A Forum Discussion March 20, 2018**

9:00a.m.-12:30p.m

Hotel ML

915 Rte 73

Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

**CEU's:** CMFO/CCFO-4.0 Off Mgmt;RMC-4.0 Prof Devel;CPA-4.0 <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts>

## **h. LEAGUE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

### **Freedom Of Speech and Social Media in the Workplace**

**March 28, 2018**

8:30a.m. to 12:30p.m

Doubletree Hotel

700 Hope Road

Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

**CEU's:** CMFO/CCFO-4.0Off Mgmt/Anc; CTC-4.0 Gen/Sec;CPWM-4.0Govt; RMC-4.0 Prof Devel;QPA-4.0 Off Admin/Gen Duties;CPA-4.0 PD; NJCLE-4.0;PACLE-3.5;RPPO/RPPS-4.0M/S <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts>

## **i. Save the Date!**

### **The One Day Mini Conference**

**June 15, 2018**

Conference Center at Mercer

1200 Old Trenton Road

West Windsor, NJ 08550

## **More Details to Follow**

Looking for More Seminars? Visit <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/373/Professional-Development-Seminars> for more information and our current seminar schedule.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Darcy, CAE

Executive Director