



ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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Brendan W. Gill
Freeholder President

August 7, 2020

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor
State of New Jersey
125 W. State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608

Dear Governor Murphy:

I am writing to express my concern regarding a pressing matter which affects DeCamp, a six-generation private family business who has provided transportation services to northern New Jersey residents since 1870. DeCamp has announced it will be suspending all services as of Friday August 7th. The residents of Montclair, Bloomfield, West Orange, and other surrounding communities in Essex County depend on the services of DeCamp. Without reliable commuter and charter transportation service companies, the quality of life for so many of our residents will be severely impacted in a negative fashion.

The CARES Act allocated 1.4 billion dollars to New Jersey to keep vital transportation services running. These federal funds have been accessed by NJ Transit and, thankfully, they have been able to continue providing their services. Unfortunately, private companies like DeCamp have not been able to access these same federal funds. The Bus Association of New Jersey has estimated that private operators account for about 35% of the scheduled bus service in the state, based on passenger miles.

The Coronavirus Economic Relief for Transportation Services Act (CERTS Act) was introduced on the floor of the Senate on July 1 and is currently under review by the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Should the bill pass, 10 billion dollars of Federal aid will be provided for transportation relief to states around the country. This will certainly help the situation, but our residents that rely on private bus companies cannot wait. Please look into what can be done on the State and local level to assist these private carrier companies, and our residents who rely on their services.

Thank you for your consideration to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Brendan W. Gill

Brendan W. Gill
President - Essex County Freeholders

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cc: Robert Menendez, U.S. Senator – State of New Jersey
Cory A. Booker, U.S. Senator – State of New Jersey
Albio Sires, U.S. Congress – 8th District
William Pascrell, Jr., U.S. Congress – 9th District
Donald Payne, Jr., U.S. Congress – 10th District
Mikie Sherrill, U.S. Congress – 11th District
Montclair Town Council
Bloomfield Town Council
Kevin S. Corbett – CEO New Jersey Transit