



**NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY
14TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT**

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HEALTH AND
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BUDGET

September 8, 2020

John Keller, Executive Director

New Jersey Turnpike Authority

PO Box 5042

Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Dear Director Keller,

I am writing to express my disappointment with the New Jersey Turnpike Authority's recent decision to remove American flags from overpasses above the New Jersey Turnpike. It is my understanding that these flags have been maintained by veterans and local law enforcement for decades.

I respectfully request that the Turnpike Authority reconsider this policy. Especially in light of the upcoming anniversary and observance of 9/11, as an important reminder of those who perished, and as a symbol of hope, unity, justice and the strength of our democracy, the American flag has always been a reflection of these values for our state and our country. I am committed to working with the Turnpike Authority to update the state statute the Turnpike Authority cited as the basis for removing flags so that American flags can be displayed in appropriate locations. During the COVID-19 pandemic, our state must always look for symbols of America's resilience.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions or wish to speak to me directly, please contact my office at (609) 631-0198 or AsmBenson@njleg.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Benson".

Daniel R. Benson

Assemblyman, 14th District

Cc: Michael Slininger, Robbinsville Township PBA President