

From: LWD Commissioner

Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 1:23 PM

To: lois.court.senate@state.co.us; paul.lundeen.senate@state.co.us; rob.woodward.senate@state.co.us; pete.lee.senate@state.co.us; jack.tate@state.co.us; julie.gonzales@state.co.us; nancy.todd@state.co.us; faith.winter@state.co.us; angela.williams@state.co.us

Subject: From the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Members of the Colorado Senate Finance Committee:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, I would like to share information about New Jersey's Temporary Disability and Family Leave Insurance programs (TDI/FLI). We have reviewed the testimony provided at the Colorado Senate Finance Committee Meeting on March 19th.

The TDI/FLI programs in New Jersey provide short-term disability and paid family leave income replacement benefits to eligible workers who require time off from work due to a non-occupational illness, injury, or other disability of the worker or other family member, bonding with a newborn child or caring for a family member with a serious health issue. Both programs are funded through wage deductions shared by both employers and workers. The New Jersey Temporary Disability Insurance and the Family Leave Insurance programs have not experienced any insolvency since the insurance programs began in 1948 and 2009, respectively.

Testimony provided to the Colorado Senate Finance Committee suggested that New Jersey's Temporary Disability and Family Leave Insurance programs have experienced insolvency and that diversions were required to keep TDI/FLI solvent. This testimony was flawed. The testimony incorrectly attributed to the NJ Family Leave Insurance program what was actually the funding mechanism of the NJ Health Care Subsidy Fund (i.e. these were diversions from the Temporary Disability Fund in order to fund a wholly separate and unrelated fund).

Thank you for allowing the State of New Jersey an opportunity to share this information and history with you.

Robert Asaro-Angelo
COMMISSIONER

Attachments area

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "RA Angelo" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.