



## **Employee-Driver Bill Reintroduced in NJ**

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A bill to reclassify drayage and parcel delivery drivers as company employees instead of independent contractors has been reintroduced in the New Jersey Legislature. The bill is similar to one that Gov. Chris Christie vetoed last year.

The Teamsters union contends that most owner-operators at U.S. seaports are misclassified as independent contractors, making them ineligible to unionize.

Motor carriers dispute those claims. The New Jersey Motor Truck Association has an effort to defeat the latest bill, introduced by Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski.

Wisniewski also sponsored last year's bill. The latest bill (A2860) has a companion Senate version (S992), sponsored by Sen. Loretta Weinberg.

Like the bill that Christie vetoed, the newly introduced legislation would create a presumption that a driver is an employee unless there's proof that he or she doesn't operate under a company's direction, that the work is outside the company's usual business, and that the driver "is customarily engaged in an independently established occupation, profession or business."