

Position on SCR 106**jm** < jm@nj21st.com >**John Migueis** < jm@nj21st.com >

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Good Morning,

Berkeley Heights and many surrounding communities in NJ have been struggling with the impact of over-development to meet the demands of luxury housing that, while sold under the guise of affordable housing, has shown no meaningful impact in easing the housing burden on middle class and working class families. Additionally, as we will be reporting, job growth has trailed behind much of the nation with Construction actually showing concerning signs of softening.

So, from both a housing and jobs perspective, the overall approach does not appear to merit the costs.

From the perspective of one hypothesis with face validity, one need only look at NJ Elec and the political contributions made from a host of development companies and associated industries to political committees that then redistribute the money to local officials in a manner that masks the true source.

Individual members of your body often bemoan the mandates but seldom, if ever, take firm public stands against the positions of the very legislators who advance this harmful culture.

One significant cost for the residents of Berkeley Heights has been flooding. Senator Scutari, who has gutted OPRA, pay to play laws and attempted to abolish the Office of the State Comptroller is now attempting to undermine REAL which would provide some basic response to the issue of flooding.

I encourage the Mayor and Council to publicly encourage the Senator to stop his efforts in advancing SCR 106 which the Jersey Vindicator calls 'a direct attack on Flood Protections'.

Councilman John Foster and Councilwoman Poage can both commit to putting actions behind their words by refusing any contributions that come from political committees, PACS or other entities that mask political contributions and to make public commitments to that effect.

Here is a primer on REAL I wrote a while back : <https://nj21st.com/2025/12/08/real-could-redraw-njs-flood-map-and-its-development-future/>

Here is the article from the Jersey Vindicator:

<https://jerseyvindicator.org/2026/04/18/new-jersey-lawmakers-plan-to-rollback-key-flood-protections-on-earth-day/>

Berkeley Heights Campaign Contribution Snapshots from our 2024 Gray Money Reporting:

<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOQknPZS05DJHKOc8DGi43XF2LgfbQilcftofG9A-gds479B1HBWCbMgv0UhvoW38A?key=ZzA0cVFQcnJMaHljRTBUaUU5RjlOc1dVZ1BmSWdB>

February Jobs Report: <https://nj21st.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Department-of-Labor-Workforce-Development--New-Jersey-Employment-Report-February-2026.pdf>

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