

# March on Washington Anniversary



## *Legislative Policy Forum*

**Thursday, August 25, 2022  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM  
St. Paul Baptist Church  
Montclair, NJ**

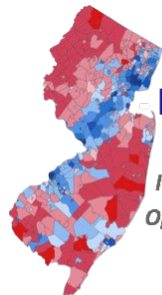


**ST. PAUL BAPTIST CHURCH**

SERVICE • WORSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • GROWTH • EVANGELISM

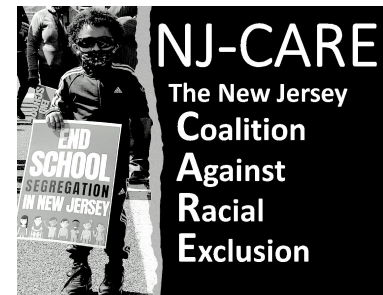


*Organizing for Inclusion, Sustainability, and Opportunity*



**Building One  
New Jersey**

*Inclusion, Sustainability  
Opportunity*



**NJ-CARE**

**The New Jersey  
Coalition  
Against  
Racial  
Exclusion**





- Host, Rev. Dr. Bernadette Glover, Pastor  
St. Paul Baptist Church, Montclair



- Co-Chair, Rev. Dr. Terry Richardson,  
Pastor, First Baptist Church South  
Orange



# Opening Prayer

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Rev. Maria Crompton, Pastor, Elmwood United  
Presbyterian, East Orange



# Format for Tonight's Meeting

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Rev. Alfred Brown, pastor, First Baptist Church,  
Cranford



# Reflection of the March on Washington

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Rev. Dr. Forrest Pritchett, Seton Hall University, South  
Orange, NJ





# The March on Washington August 28, 1963

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# An Appeal to You from

**JAMES FARMER**  
Congress of Racial Equality

**JOHN LEWIS**  
Student Non-violent  
Coordinating Committee

**ROY WILKINS**  
National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

**A. PHILIP RANDOLPH**  
Negro American Labor Council

**WHITNEY YOUNG**  
National Urban League

# to MARCH on WASHINGTON

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28, 1963

America faces a crisis . . .

Millions of Negroes are denied freedom . . .

Millions of citizens, black and white, are unemployed

We demand: — Meaningful Civil Rights Law  
— Massive Federal Works Prog  
— Full and Fair Employment  
— Decent Housing  
— The Right to Vote  
— Adequate Integrated Educati

In our community, groups and individuals are mobilizin  
the August 28th demonstration. For information regar  
your participation, call the local Coordinating Commit  
for the

MARCH ON WASHINGTC  
FOR JOBS AND FREEDO

1147 Van Street, N.W.

Area 2-232

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**WALTER REUTHER**  
AFL-CIO

**MARTIN LUTHER I**  
Southern Christian  
Leadership Conference

**A. PHILIP RANDOI**  
Negro American Labor

**WHITNEY YOUNG**  
National Urban League

**EUGENE CARSON**  
National Council of the  
of Christ in the U. S.

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**ED D. ISLER**  
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**M. R. SCHUMAI**  
International Council

**YINEGAR**  
at Chapter, CORE

MITTEE

ON MA

201 • Telepho  
L. Chairman

Rabbi Joachim Prinz, President of  
the American Jewish Congress.

A. Philip Randolph, President of  
the Negro American Labor Council.

Walter Reuther, President of the  
United Automobile, Aerospace and  
Agricultural Implement Workers of  
America, AFL-CIO, and Chairman,

Industrial Union Department, AFL-  
CIO.

Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of  
the National Association for the Ad-  
vancement of Colored People.

Whitney M. Young, Jr., Executive  
Director of the National Urban  
League.

In addition, the March has been endorsed by major religious, fraternal, labor and  
civil rights organizations. A full list, too long to include here, will be published.

# WHAT WE DEMAND\*

1. Comprehensive and effective civil rights legislation from the  
present Congress—without compromise or filibuster—to guarantee all  
Americans

access to all public accommodations  
decent housing  
adequate and integrated education  
the right to vote

2. Withholding of Federal funds from all programs in which dis-  
crimination exists.

3. Desegregation of all school districts in 1963.

4. Enforcement of the Fourteenth Amendment—reducing Congres-  
sional representation of states where citizens are disfranchised.

5. A new Executive Order banning discrimination in all housing sup-  
ported by federal funds.

6. Authority for the Attorney General to institute injunctive suits  
when any constitutional right is violated.

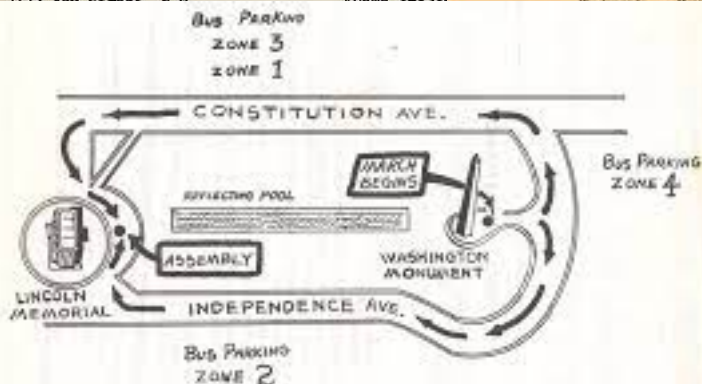
7. A massive federal program to train and place all unemployed  
workers—Negro and white—on meaningful and dignified jobs at decent  
wages.

8. A national minimum wage act that will give all Americans a de-  
cent standard of living. (Government surveys show that anything less  
than \$2.00 an hour fails to do this.)

9. A broadened Fair Labor Standards Act to include all areas of  
employment which are presently excluded.

10. A federal Fair Employment Practices Act barring discrimination  
by federal, state, and municipal governments, and by employers, con-  
tractors, employment agencies, and trade unions.

\*Support of the March does not necessarily indicate endorsement of every demand listed.  
Some organizations have not had an opportunity to take an official position on all of the  
demands advocated here.







# The promise of a fully Inclusive education in the United States of America *the unmet demand*

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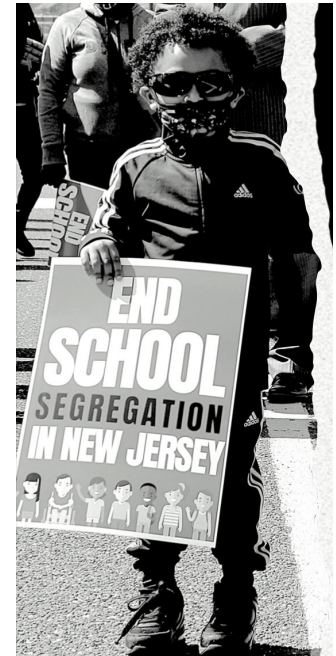
Rev. Dr. Willie D. Francois, Co-Chair of Building One  
New Jersey & the Coalition Against Racial Exclusion  
NJ-CARE, Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church,  
Pleasantville.

## *The unmet demand*

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- Of the 10 demands at the 1963 March, the 1st & the 3rd called for the immediate desegregation of America's public schools.
- As we enter our 6th decade since the march (7 since *Brown* was filed), schools in New Jersey have become some of the most segregated in the nation.
- This was not by accident. It was the result of deliberate policies still in place today. Still segregating our children by both race & poverty while denying them equal opportunity to a decent life.



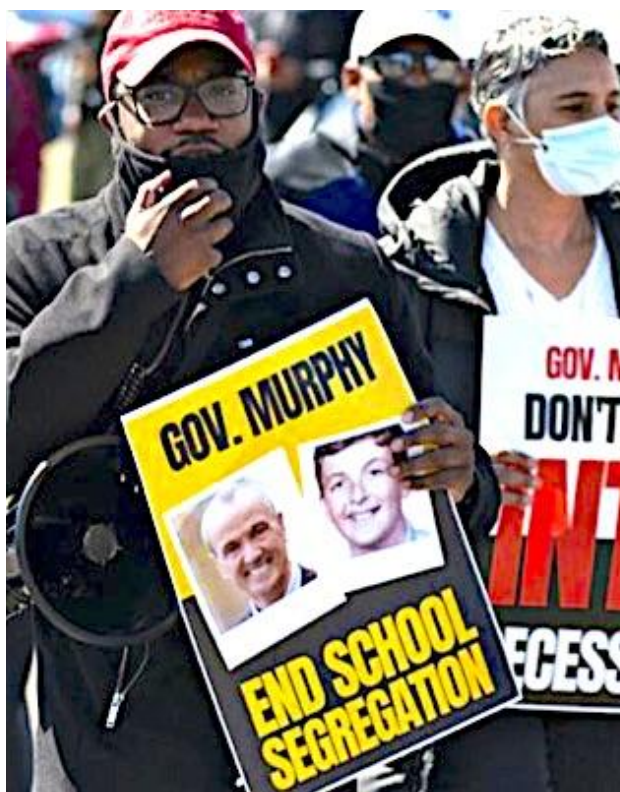
# And it's getting worse..

...as concentrated poverty has intensified in the most racially segregated schools.

- According to The Center For Diversity and Equality In Education, “the proportion of children attending either *apartheid* or *intensely segregated* schools [in NJ] has risen almost continuously since 1990”.
- And, in a modern-day secession movement, some majority white schools have begun to *break* from majority Black & brown schools (Maywood from Hackensack, Merchantville from Pennsauken & Absecon from Pleasantville)...



# SAY NO TO SECESSION





**But there are more reasons for us to act  
NOW.**

**1. There is a lawsuit that will almost certainly rule against the state.**

You do not want the courts to impose a remedy. It's not their job *and they will get it wrong.*

## **2. The Pandemic has Exposed & Exacerbated segregations' Impact:**

We face a catastrophe of post-pandemic learning loss. Early data shows far *too many children falling further and further behind.*

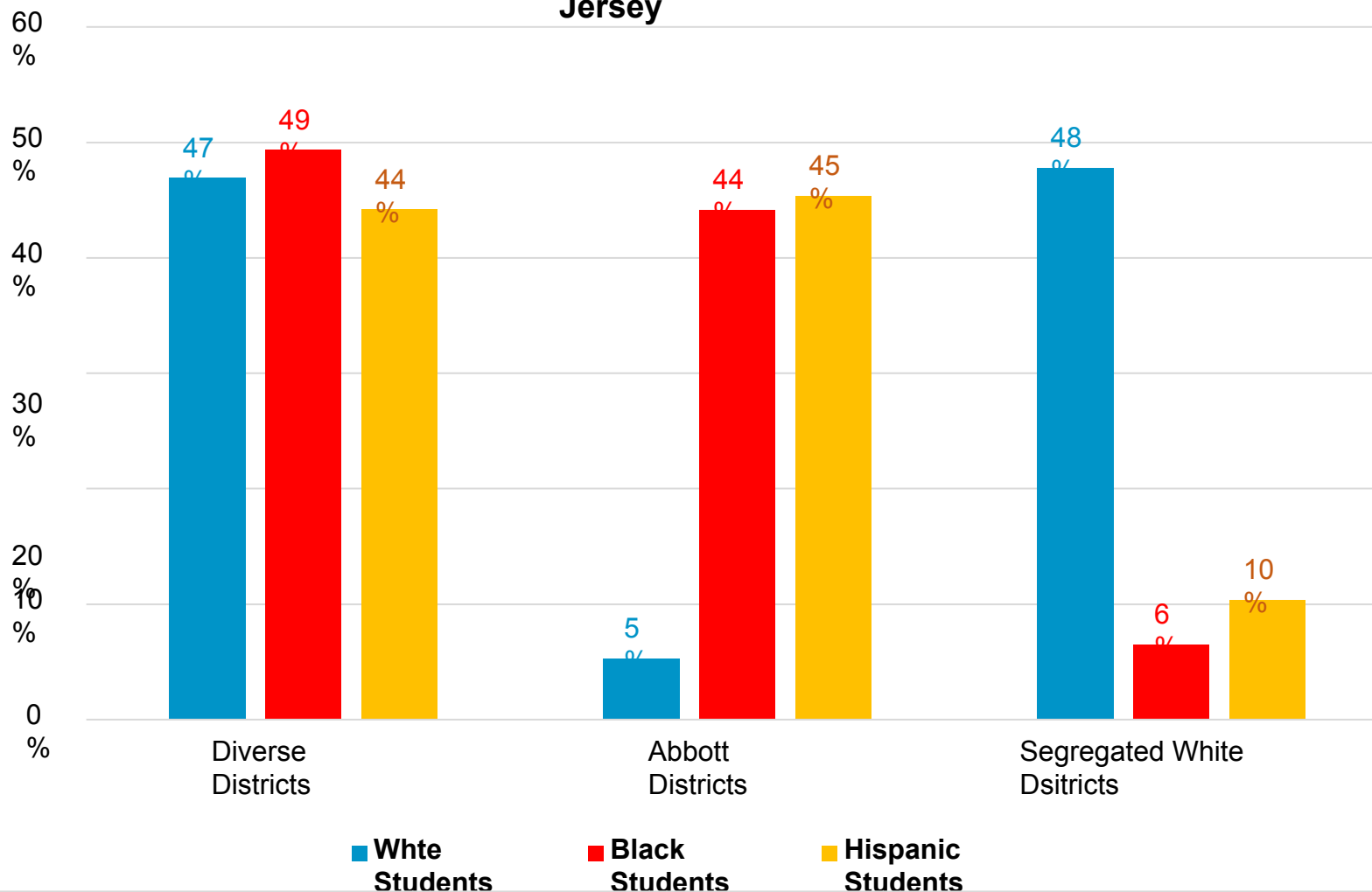
### 3. The political opportunity is *now*.

- *Intense* segregation by race & poverty is getting worse, but diversity is spreading in many suburbs.
- Diverse middle-class districts *have a self-interest* in combating segregation.
- We have an opportunity to build broad-based, multi-racial, support for a meaningful legislative approach.

*Today, nearly half of all public school students, of all colors, attend diverse districts.*



# **% Share of Total White, Black and Hispanic Students within Types in New Jersey**

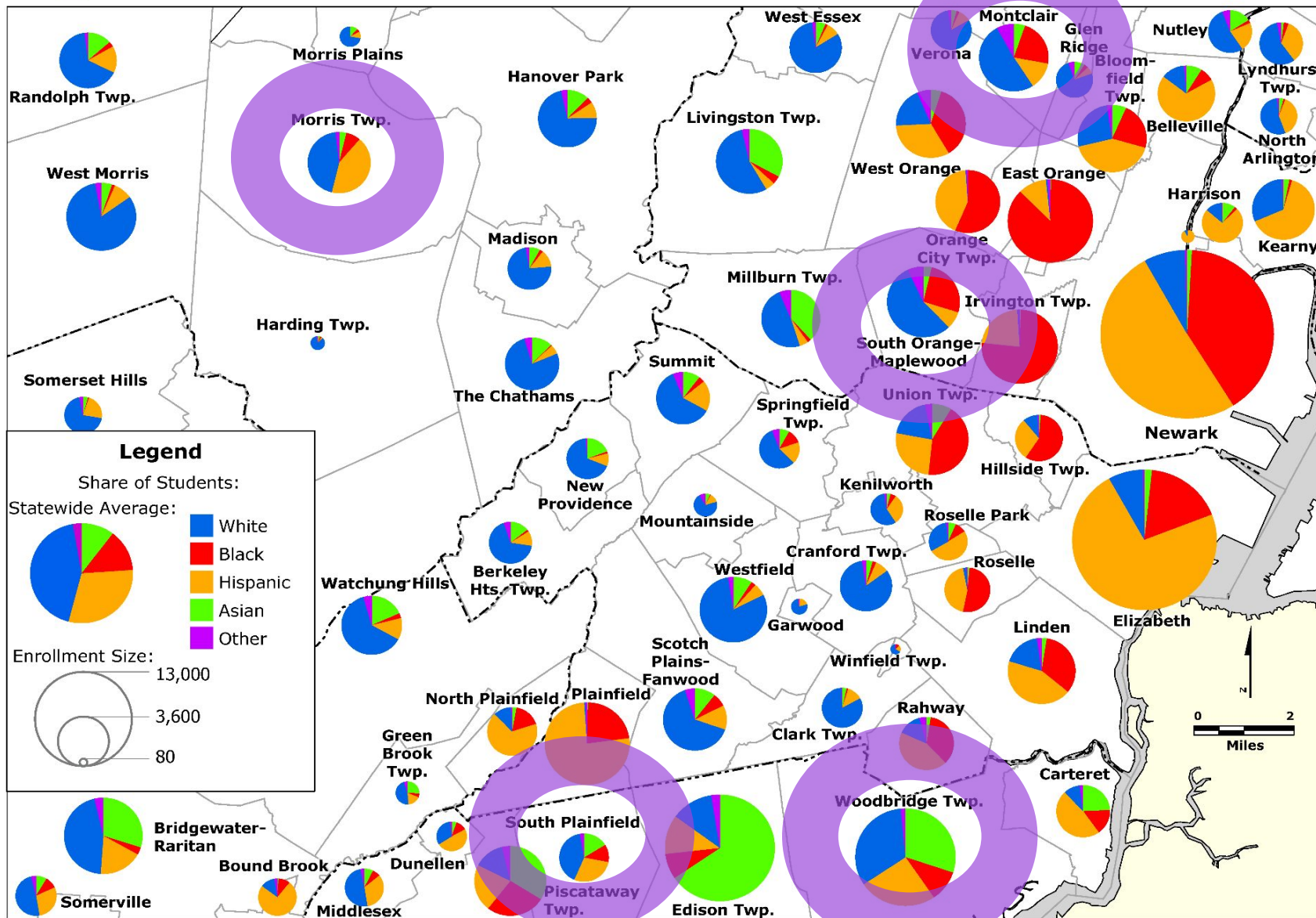


## Some of North Jersey's Largest Diverse Districts



- Union
- Hillside
- Linden
- Mount Olive
- Morris
- Roxbury
- Dover
- West Orange
- Bloomfield
- Nutley
- Belleville
- Bayonne
- North Bergen
- Kearny
- Clifton
- Hackensack
- Teaneck
- Englewood
- Fair Lawn
- Bergenfield
- Lodi
- North Plainfield
- South Orange-Maplewood
- Rahway
- Montclair
- Cliffside Park

# NEWARK- NORTH NEW JERSEY AREA Race of Public School Students by School Districts in 2019-2020



# Principles for ending school segregation in New Jersey



# Principles for ending school segregation in New Jersey

- *School integration must involve everyone. It must be statewide & involve entire regions if it is to shut off doors to “flight”.*

# Principles for ending school segregation in New Jersey

- *It must aim to incentivize & push all districts, schools, classrooms, and even faculty and curriculum to better reflect the diversity of their regions & the state.*

# Principles for ending school segregation in New Jersey

- *and be based on a thorough analysis of racial as well as economic factors including a district's demographics and property tax capacity.*

***It's not just about race, its about opportunity***

The specific legislative tools  
include the following:



# *Amend and Pass Senate Bill 820*

*Establishes the office of desegregation*

- Reform & strengthen the DOE's civil rights capacity so it can develop a desegregation plan & has the power, funds, mandate, and expertise to enforce it.
- We can start by amending & passing S820 sponsored by Senator Joe Cryan and Assemblywoman Mila Jasey.

- The bill must include a mandate, a mission, a budget, expertise as well as:
  - accountability *and community engagement*
  - so that the people have a seat at the table.
- A task force or commission so our leaders and experts can help shape and oversee it.

# *Amend the School Consolidation Bill*

- **We must end *illegal racist secessions*.**
  - Ban the terminating of any more regional send-receive arrangements or the dissolution of unified districts.
  - Amend the new *School Consolidation Bill* to ban secessions while requiring an *affirmative* obligation to promote integration.

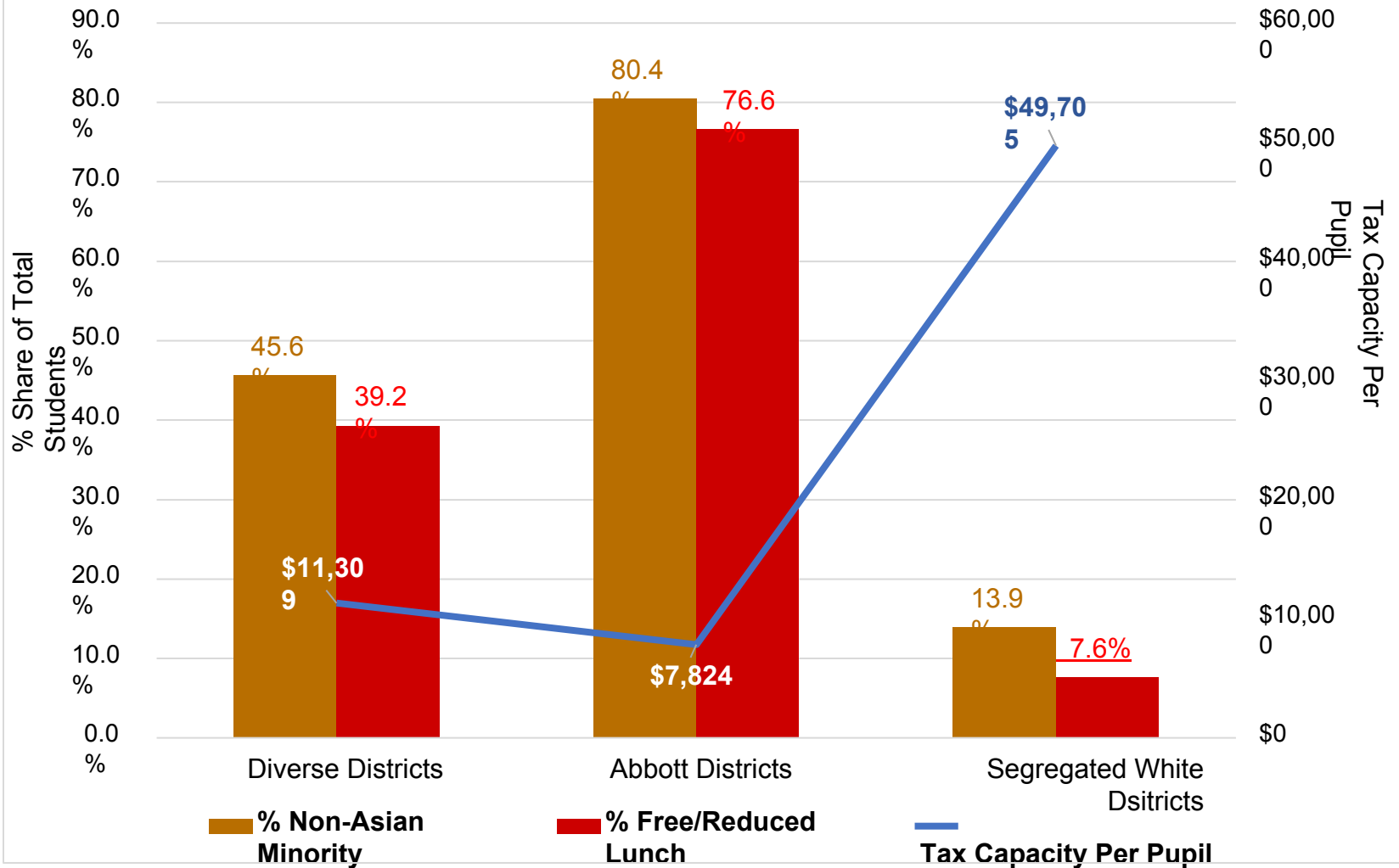
# *Amend Senate Bill 354*

*Establishes a School Funding Evaluation Task Force*

- Criteria for school aid should incentivize inclusive schools in cities as well as diverse, middle-class suburbs.
- Reward inclusion best practices. *Stop rewarding exclusion.*
- *School Funding Evaluation Task Force must make racial justice and civil rights a goal of funding & include the appointment of pro-inclusion stakeholders.*
  - *Give us a seat at the table*
    - *so we can give inclusion and justice a prominent place at that table.*

- New Jersey's over-reliance on local property taxes rewards *exclusion* more than inclusion

## Race, Poverty and Tax Capacity of Types in New Jersey

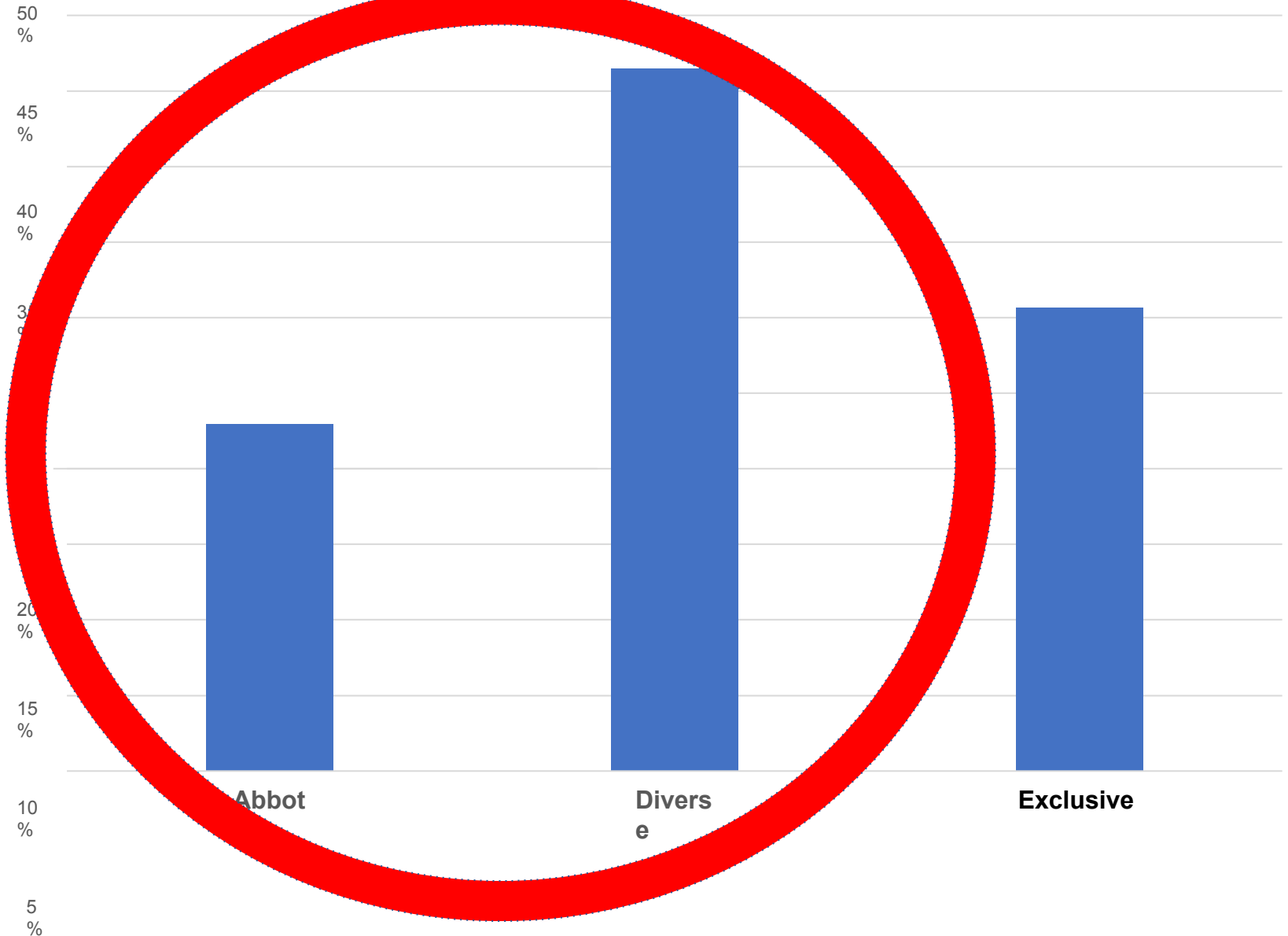




- These reforms can be done because they are right and moral...

...and because urban and diverse suburban districts are a *70%* winning coalition.

# New Jersey Public School Student



- Its time to align our values with our actions and advance this agenda in the New Jersey Legislature
- Next steps are the proposed amendments introduced into the Senate and Assembly Education Committees



# Reactions and Feedback

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Rev. Dr. Terry Richardson, Pastor, First Baptist Church  
South Orange

# Reactions and Feedback

- *What about Pastor Francois' presentation on the problems of segregated schools and the proposed solutions resonates with you?*
- *Do you have an experience or story as a leader, parent, student, educator, tax-payer or resident that relates to what was presented here tonight?*



# Commitments and Next Steps

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Assemblywoman Mila Jasey

Senator Joe Cryan

*Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Public Schools*



Two bills have been introduced in the Senate Education Committee earlier this year but have yet to be heard in the Assembly. Both need amendments as outlined by Rev. Francois.

- One establishes the ***Office of Desegregation*** sponsored by Senators Cryan and Assemblywoman Jasey
- The other establishes a ***School Funding Evaluation Task Force*** introduced and sponsored by Senator Vin Gopal the Chair of the Education Committee.



# What Was Accomplished

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- Rev. Dana P. Owens, Pastor, Messiah Baptist Church, East Orange





# Call to Action

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## Next Steps

- Rev. Bernadette Glover, Pastor St. Paul Baptist Church, Montclair



# Closing Prayer

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Rev. Pamela Denise Sallie, Pastor, Mt. Pilgrim  
Missionary Baptist Church, Passaic

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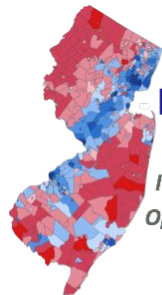


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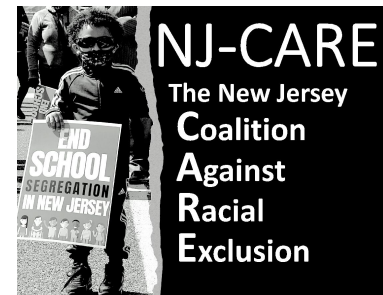


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