

ARNOLD W. DRUCKER
Deputy Minority Leader
District 16



NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
Theodore Roosevelt Executive & Legislative Building

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August 8, 2025

Scott Cohen, Director of Communications
c/o Nassau Retirees Legal Fund
3824 Waverly Avenue
Seaford, N.Y. 11783

Dear Mr. Cohen and the membership of the Nassau Retirees Legal Fund:

Thank you for your continued advocacy on the behalf of CSEA retirees – the men and women who were instrumental in building the foundation for the Nassau County that we all enjoy in the present day. I fully support the Nassau Retirees Legal Fund in its fight to preserve and restore all of the benefits – most critically, healthcare coverage through the Empire Plan – that were secured during the course of collective bargaining with the County.

For those who pursue careers in public service, there is an understanding that, while the initial monetary compensation may not be as great as what could be earned in the private sector for a similar role, the difference will be made up through the delivery of robust benefits that provide stability and comfort for the worker and their family.

The CSEA retirees of Nassau County, who have done so much in so many ways to facilitate the orderly and efficient operation of vital services we all rely upon, are correct to demand for the County administration to show them the respect of knowing that the benefits they worked so diligently to earn are secure.

I stand with you in affirming:

- Because the law prohibits unions from representing both retirees and active employees simultaneously, retirees could not have been included in the 2023 Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the union representing active employees;
- The CBA in effect at the time of your retirement, which furnishes County-paid health insurance that cannot be diminished, governs your rights in retirement; and
- The federal government defines a “benefit” as the healthcare items or services covered under a health insurance plan. Retirees are entitled to fully paid health insurance for life, with benefits at least as comprehensive as those offered by the NYSHI Empire Plan.

I urge the County Executive and my colleagues at all levels of government to stand with the Nassau Retirees Legal Fund and its members as you continue to advocate for the benefits you have earned through your steadfast service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arnold W. Drucker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Arnold W. Drucker, Deputy Minority Leader
Nassau County Legislature, District 16