

**NASW-NYS Political Post**  
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**Karin Moran, MSW**

**Come and Knock on our Door** – Arizona’s new immigration law has received an immense amount of attention here in New York this week. Senators Jose Peralta and Jose Serrano publicly condemned the measure, noting it will “Promote racial profiling.” Senator Peralta went on to say “The bill by the Arizona Governor is a slap in the face to the federal government.” According to several media sources, several NY Latino Assembly members are planning a trip to Arizona in protest, where they will “chain themselves to the border fence.” Among those reported to be heading west are Felix Ortiz, José Rivera, Naomi Rivera, Adam Clayton Powell, Carmen Arroyo and Peter Rivera. NYC Mayor, Michael Bloomberg referred to the measure as “National Suicide,” noting the initiative is “... not good for the country. I don't agree with it," he said. "We love immigrants here." Bloomberg went on to say “Because federal lawmakers have failed to tackle the thorny issue, lawmakers in states like Arizona have taken matters into their own hands.”

**We’ve Been Waiting for You** – It would seem that each of the houses and the Executive are playing a bit of a waiting game or, at the very least, a good game of chicken and the Governor has recently upped the ante in demanding the legislature grant him authority to impose a state workforce furlough or risk a government shutdown. As reported in the daily news... “Nobody seems to want to do anything except point the finger in a different direction, and I'm going to stop it," Paterson said. “That will require some tough decision-making on my part, and also on the part of the Legislature.” He went on to note that he’s “...Prepared to include a furlough provision that lawmakers oppose in the emergency spending measure he sends to the Legislature next week.” Meanwhile, our licensure exemption extension and funding for our Veterans Mental Health Training Initiative remains a hostage of the process...stay tuned.

**Come and Dance on our Floor** – On the national front, it seems the GOP has decided to attend the dance of finance reform. Earlier in the week many GOP senate members straight out objected to the measure, however, in a turn of events, reports from Washington note that “Democrats and Republicans agree the Senate will ultimately pass landmark changes.” MSNBC characterize the initiative as a measure “...Aimed at preventing a recurrence of the crisis that knocked the nation's financial system to its knees in 2008.” Currently the two parties are focused on details of the plan expected to carry on for at least two weeks.