**Unit 9: Major Assignments & Grading - Ticket to class: Representatives & what they represent**

**Ticket to Class Assignment: Your Federal, State, and Local Representatives**

**Instructions**

**In no more than 2-3 pages, double spaced, please answer the following questions, citing references as appropriate, in APA style.  Links to resources to find your representatives are located on the syllabus.  Note that this assignment is connected to your advocacy assignment, so please address each part of the assignment thoroughly.**

**D=Democratic**

**R=Republican**

**Working Thesis: Advocacy/lobbying needs to be implemented to stop the repeal of ACA and encourage GOP to focus on repairing the current issues the bill has to improve it all together**

1. Identify who represents you (your district; **Congressional District 20**) to the **US Senate and the US House of Representatives: Robert “Bob” Menéndez (D), Cory Booker (D), & Senator Raymond J. Lesniak (D)**

* Identify their names (there should be 3 people), and which legislative body they are in (House or Senate?)
* Identify each of their political parties
* Select one of these people and identify one of his/her policy or legislative priorities
* Where does this policy fall on the individualist vs. collectivist continuum of perspectives on social welfare policies? (Following Ch. 3 Gilbert & Terrell) **Policy Analysis Gilbert, N. & Terrell, P. (2013). Dimensions of Social Welfare Policy (8thed.). Chapter 3: A framework for social welfare policy analysis**

2. Identify who represents you (**Congressional District 20**) to your **STATE legislature: (D)**

**Senator Raymond J. Lesniak (D), Assemblyman Jamel C. Holley (D), Assemblywoman Annette Quijano (D)**

* Identify their names (there should be at least 2 people, but each state differs), and which legislative body they are in (each state has different names for their legislatures; e.g. in NJ there is the State Senate and the State Assembly)
* Identify each of their political parties
* Select one of these people and find a bill/statute that he/she proposed or supported. Was that bill/statute actually become a law?
* Where does this bill/statute fall on the individualist vs. collectivist continuum of perspectives on social welfare policies? (Following Ch. 3 Gilbert & Terrell)

3. Identify your **county freeholder** and any **municipal/local representatives – including local School Board**.: **Union County, NJ: Chairman Bruce H. Bergen, Vice Chairmain Sergio Granados, Freeholder Linda Carter, “ Angel G. Estrada, “ Christopher Hudak, etc. http://ucnj.org/departments/clerk-of-the-board/freeholders/**

* + What role(s) do each of these political offices play in the governance of county or local affairs?
	+ What are their responsibilities in terms of social welfare issues?

4.     Now, think about **policy and the work that you do.** In a brief statement, outline the role that particular policies play in your work – and/or in your personal life.  Then think about the goals that you have for this course, whether they concern particular policy areas you would like to explore or skills that you would like to attain.  Please share.

5. **What have you learned – about political organization, “the issues”, and yourself by engaging in this exercise?**

**Useful websites for ticket to class project and understanding political process**

Web site of the NJ Legislature search for bills and legislators <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>

Library of Congress, House and Senate representatives and search for bills<https://www.congress.gov/>

Find your legislators <http://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/>

NJ State Judiciary  <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/index.htm>

Supreme Court of the U.S. <http://www.supremecourt.gov/>

Executive branch of U.S. government:  <https://www.whitehouse.gov/>

Department of Justice:  <http://www.justice.gov/>

***Which federal, state and local departments are responsible for the implementation of policies/services in your area of work/field?***

Government 101 - website - familiarize yourself with how a bill becomes a federal law. <http://votesmart.org/education/government#.VWNEwE_BzGc>

Look up how a bill becomes a law and the legislative process in your state: e.g.: NJ: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/legprocess.asp>

**WEBSITES I FOUND FOR NJ IN SPECIFIC (NJ Representatives):**

<http://nj.gov/governor/>

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/NJ/10>

<https://lance.house.gov/issues/healthcare>

<https://payne.house.gov/our-district/union-county>

<http://www.elizabethnj.org/city-council/biography>