

JOSH GOTTHEIMER
5TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
106 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4465
FAX: (202) 225-9048

HTTP://GOTTHEIMER.HOUSE.GOV
X: @REPJOSHG
INSTAGRAM: @REPJOSHG
FACEBOOK: FACEBOOK.COM/REPJOSHG



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3005

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April 28, 2026

The Honorable Mikie Sherrill
Governor
125 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

The Honorable Craig Coughlin
Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly
125 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

The Honorable Nicholas Scutari
President of the New Jersey Senate
125 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Mr. Kris Kolluri
President & CEO, NJ TRANSIT
2 Gateway, 283-299 Market Street,
Newark, NJ 07102

Dear Governor Sherrill, Senator Scutari, Assemblyman Coughlin, and President Kolluri:

I am writing to you to express my deep concern regarding legislation that would implement burdensome tax increases on New Jersey families in the area surrounding the Meadowlands District to fund 2026 World Cup costs.¹ People in our state are already stretched too thin, and we should not ask them to cover even more costs of the FIFA World Cup. New Jersey taxpayers should be excluded from all fare hikes and tax increases related to the games.

The proposal to raise taxes by three percent from 6.625 percent to a staggering 9.625 percent on families and towns within a thirty square mile radius surrounding the MetLife Stadium amounts to balancing the World Cup's books on the backs of local Bergen County residents and small businesses.² These communities didn't ask for higher taxes; they shouldn't be punished for living near an event venue. I strongly suggest that you reconsider this proposal.

New Jersey fares should benefit from hosting the World Cup — not be nickel-and-dimed at every turn to foot the bill. As someone who worked hard to help bring federal resources to

¹ <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bill-search/2026/S4111>

² *Gov. Sherrill backs sales tax hike during World Cup matches as 'tourism fee.'* (n.d.). New Jersey Monitor. <https://newjerseymonitor.com/2026/04/16/governor-sales-tax-world-cup/>

support the World Cup in our region, I believe we should make this event a success for New Jersey, but not at the expense of families and small businesses.

I respectfully urge you to immediately exclude Jersey residents from any tax hikes on local communities. Hosting the World Cup is an incredible opportunity, and I have no doubt our state will shine under the spotlight this summer. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Gottheimer". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large initial "J" and "G".

Josh Gottheimer
MEMBER OF CONGRESS