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In his customary swing-for-the-fences style, Gov. Chris Christie has asked the Legislature to enact the most far-reaching restructuring of public education since the implementation of a funding formula and ultimate legislative outcome rather than engaging in a campaign to defeat the package entirely, the NJEA can offer its supporters in the Legislature what it considers an acceptable alternative to the governor's program.

Better to be seen as a part of the solution than be demonized as the source of the problem.

It is a tacit recognition by the union that its political clout has diminished somewhat,

junior partner — in molding and