

## Opinion: Frustrated N.J. Democrats take a stand on Kwon nomination, get a win

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## By Carl Golden

If, as is widely accepted, the Senate Judiciary Committee's refusal to approve the nomination of Phillip Kwon to the state Supreme Court was intended more as a kick in the shins to Gov. Chris Christie than any judgment on the nominee's qualifications, it inevitably leads to speculation about how long the bruises on the governor's legs will last and whether the Democratic leadership — having gotten away with it this time — will be tempted to try it again on other issues.

The political narrative is that some Democrats had grown increasingly restive over what they perceived to be a failure to exert the party's majority power as Christie racked up victory after victory and that the time had arrived to reassert itself in a high-profile fashion.

effect of party losses in 2013. That's the lesson to be drawn from the rejection of Phillip Kwon.

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