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**Subject:** pilot arbitration program

I sit as an Arbitrator now for the past 10 years in Burlington County (as well as Gloucester & Atlantic) and believe this pilot program certainly deserves consideration as it will force the parties to get serious about the value of their case prior to arbitration. Often we ask if there have been any settlement discussions and frequently there have not been. The downside is that it takes away the opportunity for the parties to see what a neutral litigator believes the case is worth. Some cases are hard to evaluate and the parties truly appreciate someone else's opinion of what they think a jury would put on the case. But I say give it a try and see what happens.  
Good luck!

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