


Governor Chris Christie Timeline of Action

1st Year In Office: The Year Trenton Was Turned Upside Down

“By taking direct, tough action, difficult as it may be, we can turn our crisis into an opportunity.”
- New Jersey Governor Chris Christie



- JAN. 19 — Governor Chris Christie Inaugurated.
- JAN. 22 — Signs [Day One Executive Orders](#) to, among other things, [increase transparency](#) & [cut job-killing red tape](#).
- JAN. 22 — [19 reports](#) issued by his Transition New Jersey subcommittees, which conducted thorough reviews of all departments, agencies and authorities of the state.
- JAN. 22 — [NJ 2-1-1](#), a public-private partnership between United Way agencies throughout New Jersey and the State of New Jersey, provides coordinated assistance directed toward [relief efforts in Haiti](#).
- JAN. 27 — [\\$1.267 million](#) Schools Development Authority change order [vetoed](#).
- FEB. 3 —
 1. [Vetoes](#) Delaware River and Bay Authority Board’s blanket authorization of expenditures to 98 vendors in unspecified amounts in excess of [\\$25,000](#) and minutes regarding the adoption of a 2010 operating budget that represents a [3.04 percent increase](#) over the 2009 operating budget.
 2. [Creates](#) commission to prepare comprehensive policy to [fix New Jersey’s gaming, sports and entertainment industries](#).
- FEB. 5 — [Vetoes](#) portion of the minutes from the January 13, 2010 New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority meeting concerning the award of [\\$415, 608](#) for projects, urging justification on the expenditure in light of the fact that [\\$399,608](#) of the total funding was to be allocated for the yearly salary and benefits of only four employees.
- FEB. 9 — [EO-12](#) signed, which created the [Housing Opportunity Task Force](#) to eliminate council on affordable housing and usher in housing reform.
- FEB.11 —  [\\$2.203 billion](#) in budget solutions to balance New Jersey’s FY 2010 budget shortfall [announced](#).
- FEB. 18 — [19.8%](#) budget increase by Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey & [5.6%](#) budget increase Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey [vetoed](#).
- FEB. 23 — [EO-15](#) directing a comprehensive [review of all state authorities, boards and commissions](#) and [taking immediate action to reform abusive fiscal practices](#) signed.
- FEB. 24 — Launches interactive [website](#) and social networking tools: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#).



Name: **Governor Chris Christie Fan Page**
 Type: **Politician**
 10,671 people like this.

MAR. 1



Governor Chris Christie, U.S. Representative Rob Andrews, State Senate President Steve Sweeney and then-acting DEP Commissioner Bob Martin speak out Against Planned Dredging of the Delaware River.

MAR. 1

Responds to Port Authority Counterproposal for the World Trade Center.

MAR. 5

Vetoes minutes of Delaware River and Bay Authority containing open-ended and unspecified spending.

MAR. 9

Holds conversation with town officials and community leaders highlighting Haddon Heights' success in finding ways to do more in government with less. Governor Christie - "I Am Going To Do What Needs To Be Done."

MAR. 11

Creates Task Force to develop a comprehensive approach to privatization. Facing state employee contracts entered into by the prior administration that include raises of between 7 percent and 11 percent for thousands of public employees in 2011.



MAR. 16

Proposes necessary solutions to close the \$11 billion budget deficit for FY 2011 by cutting spending and not raising taxes. "It is a painful but vital step if our state is to regain its financial and economic footing." - Governor Christie

MAR. 18

Vetoes minutes of New Jersey Turnpike Authority. Concerns the award of five contracts: \$2.34 million, \$980,000, \$476,000, \$735,200 and \$545,000. The fees ranged from 11.5% to 84% higher than the fees proposed by other highly-ranked firms competing for the contracts.

MAR. 22



S2, S3 and S4 signed into law, which requires local government public employees to contribute to their generous medical benefits, saving municipalities, counties and school districts \$314 million. Governor Christie - "The passage of today's set of bills is a solid start to reforming our pension system and I applaud the Senate and Assembly Leadership and the entire bipartisan efforts of the legislature for taking this necessary first step."

MAR. 23

Calls for one-year salary freeze and 1.5% health benefits contribution, provides path forward for school districts to protect New Jersey school children, prevent layoffs and program cuts.

MAR. 30

Offers plan to provide additional state aid to school districts that adopt salary freeze.

SALARY FREEZE = JOBS SAVED

APR. 9 ————— [Increases Charity Care funding](#) to protect health services for vulnerable New Jerseyans.

APR. 12 ————— Unveils [Partnership for Action Plan](#) to make New Jersey a home for growth.

APR. 19 ————— Overhauled State government's [regulatory system and reduced the red tape](#) that stifles economic growth and imposes costs on businesses and citizens.

APR. 19 ————— Opens the [Governor's Sustainable Energy and Economic Policy Forum](#) by directing BPU to revisit the Energy Master Plan in light of current economic conditions.

APR. 21 ————— [58%](#) of school budgets [voted down](#), highest ever percentage of defeated school budgets.

APR. 29 — Earth Day pledge: [No LNG, No offshore drilling](#). Governor Christie - "[I oppose the idea of drilling off the coast of New Jersey.](#)"

APR. 30 ————— [Signs](#) landmark legislation to [protect individuals with developmental disabilities](#) from harmful caregivers.

MAY. 5 ————— [Signs \(S-82\)](#) legislation to Reform Land-Use Development Regulations.

[Signs \(S-920\)](#) legislation to encourage Public-Private Partnerships for higher education institutions.

MAY. 10 ————— Takes action to provide real property tax relief by proposing [Cap 2.5 Reform Agenda](#), a 33-bill package of reforms aimed at solving New Jersey's property tax crisis.



MAY. 11 ————— Governor Christie – "[Take it out of the hands of the politicians, take it out of the hands of the judges, and put it in the hands of the people who pay the bills.](#)"

MAY. 13 ————— Unveils realistic and achievable measures to [reform New Jersey's System of Affordable Housing](#).
[Passaic Valley Today](#) – "Local Government Favors Christie's Proposed COAH Plans."

MAY. 17 ————— Called on the Port Authority to help reduce harmful air emissions and take approximately [1,000 trucks per day off New Jersey's roads](#) by building a new barge-to-rail facility at Greenville Yards in Jersey City.

MAY. 18 ————— [Vetoes potentially wasteful spending](#) by partially rejecting minutes of New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority in relation to a \$1.3 million land purchase in Pleasantville.

MAY. 19 ————— [Restored Senior Gold and PAAD](#) to original levels and reduced generic co-pays to \$5 without requiring additional cuts to programs and services.

MAY. 20 ————— Income tax increase legislation [vetoed](#), saving tax payers [\\$637 million](#).

MAY. 22 ————— [Signs \(A-2507\)](#), legislation to revitalize the New Jersey horse racing industry, at Monmouth Park opening day.



MAY. 25 ————— [Super Bowl 2014](#) is coming to New Jersey!

MAY. 25 ————— [Talks](#) Cap 2.5 Reform Agenda before the [Manhattan Institute](#).



JUN. 1 — Choose New Jersey launched by Governor Christie, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno and business leaders.



JUN. 8 — Endorses East Coast Offshore Wind Agreement.

JUN. 15 — 200+ Bipartisan Mayoral support for Governor Christie's Cap 2.5 Cap Reform.

JUN. 21 — Newark Mayor Booker endorses Christie Cap 2.5 Reform Agenda. Mayor Booker - "This issue is not Republican or Democrat, it is not urban or suburban, north our south, it is not white, black, Latino or an Asian issue. This is a New Jersey issue."



JUN. 22 — Bipartisan Passaic County Board Of Chosen Freeholders endorses Cap 2.5 Reform Agenda

JUN. 23 — 400+ New Jerseyans attended the 7th Cap 2.5 town hall in Gibbstown, N.J.

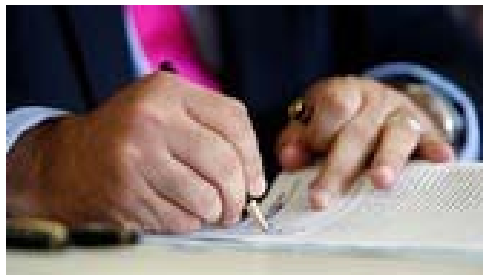
JUN. 24 — Rejects Waterfront Commission budget salary increase, directing the Waterfront Commission to reduce the budget's "Total Regular Payroll" line item of \$7,145,443 by \$125,000.



JUN. 24 — Spares employers an average \$400 per employee, or 52%, increase in the unemployment insurance payroll tax and instituted benefits reforms that will reduce the Unemployment Compensation Fund's reliance on employer contributions.

JUN. 25 — Announces historic port expansion and land acquisitions at Marine Ocean Terminal at Bayonne (MOTBY) and Global Marine Terminal on Port Jersey, utilizing the State's homegrown resources for sustainable job creation and economic growth.

JUN. 29 — Signs the FY 2011 budget that closes an \$11 billion deficit without raising taxes.



JUL. 1 — [Calls & addresses](#) a joint Special Session of the New Jersey Legislature to push for immediate action on property tax reform.

JUL. 2 — Signs [S-1813](#) to protect New Jersey Small Businesses and Reform UI Trust Fund.



JUL. 3 —  [\(Video\)](#) Reaches bipartisan consensus to [provide real property tax relief](#) for New Jerseyans.

JUL. 9 — [Releases](#) New Jersey Privatization Task Force Report.

JUL. 11 — National Governors Association [names](#) Governor Chris Christie to Executive Committee.



JUL. 13 — Keynote speech on creating jobs and economic growth at the [Annual NJ Building and Trades Convention](#).

— Signs [S-29](#) into law. A two percent, hard cap on property taxes. Marking the first significant step towards bringing lasting property tax reform to New Jersey.

JUL. 15 — Unveils a proposal to [cap and reform](#) school administrators' salaries. [Governor Christie](#) - "[It is our responsibility, in state government and at the local level, to act in every possible way to ensure that as many education dollars remain in the classroom as possible.](#)"

JUL. 16 — Establishes Commission to explore [efficiencies and improvements](#) in County Prosecutor's Offices.

JUL. 19 — 6 months ([182 Days](#)) in office as Governor of New Jersey.



ASBURY PARK
PRESS

**Gov proposes
cap for school
administrators**

Would limit pay for
superintendents, others



JUL. 21 Governor Christie welcomes [recommendations](#) of New Jersey Gaming, Sports and Entertainment Advisory Commission as [blueprint](#) for economic growth and prosperity. "This report is a blueprint that will guide our efforts in managing and protecting our gaming, sports and entertainment resources more responsibly and reforming issues critical to New Jersey's economic future." - [Governor Christie](#).

JUL. 23 Vetoes Senate Bills [2134](#) and [2139](#) and Assembly Bill [1678](#) to prevent [\\$132 million in state spending](#) that was not accounted for in the budget nor envisioned as part of the bipartisan agreement on a spending plan.



JUL. 26 Governor Christie is a guest on [ABC's "This Week"](#), his first appearance on a Sunday show.

JUL. 27 New Jersey is selected as a ["Race to the Top"](#) phase 2 finalist.

JUL. 28 Governor Christie and Mayor Cory Booker welcome [President Barack Obama](#) to New Jersey.



JUL. 29 Honeywell announces intention to redevelop their global headquarters and [stay in New Jersey](#).
"I commend Governor Christie and his administration for their focus on improving the business climate in our state." - [Honeywell Chairman and CEO Dave Cote](#)

In a [letter](#), called on the DRPA to act swiftly to [improve transparency and restore public confidence](#) in the bi-state agency by adopting an extensive list of much-needed reforms jointly endorsed by Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell, as well as additional reforms separately advocated by the Christie Administration.

JUL. 30 Stressing the need for increased efficiency in delivering services rather than continually raising costs on New Jersey families, Governor Christie [vetoes A-2921](#).



AUG. 16 Signs legislation to eliminate [demeaning terms](#) from state laws and regulations.

AUG. 17 Signs legislation to provide investment, continuity and economic growth to the Fort Monmouth region by creating the [Fort Monmouth Economic Revitalization Authority \(FMERA\)](#).

AUG. 18 [Secures](#) \$39.6 million federal grant to put in place a state-of-the-art public safety wireless broadband network in support of first responders, law enforcement and emergency management professionals.

AUG. 19 Continues his commitment to grow and strengthen New Jersey's economy by utilizing and promoting energy initiatives as key to the State's technology future by signing the [Offshore Wind Economic Development Act](#).

AUG. 20 Governor Chris Christie, First Lady and family highlight community service at [America's Grow-A-Row](#).

AUG. 23 Governor Christie signs series of bills to honor New Jersey's [Military Veterans](#).

Governor Chris Christie removes provision in law eliminating scrutiny of \$28 million in potential overpayments of unemployment benefits by conditionally [vetoing S-1968](#).

AUG. 25 Governor Christie signs [Jaden's Law](#) to promote bone marrow donation awareness



AUG. 26 Christie releases guidelines for the ['Best Practices'](#) toolkit initiative to bring greater accountability, responsible budgeting and management and cost controls to local governments throughout New Jersey.

AUG. 31 Governor Chris Christie signs legislation to [promote vital clean water](#) and environmental protection projects



- SEPT. 1** — Governor Christie holds New Jersey’s authorities and commissions accountable by vetoing two actions of New Jersey [Maritime Pilot & Docking Commission](#), including a line item in the amount of \$50,000 for “Oversight Services.”
- SEPT. 2** — Governor Christie demands further reform, vetoes [Delaware River Port Authority](#) meeting minutes because five reforms passed by the Commissioners at those meetings did not go far enough and did not comport with the directives stipulated in his July 29th and August 16th letters to the authority.
- The Christie Administration submits a proposal to the Legislature to accomplish the conversion of [New Jersey Network](#) from a government body to an independent entity, either to a non-profit corporation or through a sale or transfer of assets to an existing public broadcasting entity.
- SEPT. 7** — Governor Chris Christie holds a town hall with New Jersey families to outline a bold [reform agenda](#).
- [The Christie Record](#): A foundation for long-term reform.
 - [The Christie Reform Agenda](#): Bold reform for a stronger New Jersey.
- SEPT. 8** — Governor Christie proposes rigorous [ethics reforms](#) package that strengthen laws governing pay to play, dual office holding and employment, financial disclosure, “wheeling” of campaign contributions.
- ❖ [The Times of Trenton](#) - “Gov. Chris Christie Is Right On The Money With His Insistence On Ethics Reforms.”
- SEPT. 10** — Governor Christie eliminates redundant, duplicative, and defunct layers of state government by delivering [Executive Order No. 40](#) that will eliminate 60 boards and commissions.
- SEPT. 14** — Governor Chris Christie unveils a sweeping package of reform measures to make the state and local [employee pension](#) system sustainable for current and future retirees and to bring fairness and affordability to the public employee health benefits system.
- SEPT. 15** — Governor Chris Christie and Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno release a statement in honor of [Hispanic Heritage Month](#).
- SEPT. 16** — Governor Chris Christie appointed to the [Advisory Committee](#) for Trade Policy and Negotiations (ACTPN) by President Barack Obama.
- Governor Chris Christie announces the launch of a web page, “[The Christie Fall Reform Agenda: Rethink, Reform, Rebuild NJ](#),” on his official website. The web page features a video titled “The Clock Starts Now” and underscores the urgency of taking action on these measures.
- Governor Chris Christie vetoes three actions taken by the [Delaware River Port Authority](#) to “reinstate” E-Z Pass perks for Commissioners, officers, employees and retirees of the DRPA and PATCO.
- SEPT. 17** — Governor Chris Christie vetoes minutes of [the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority](#) for hiring outside counsel without seeking proposals or competitive bids.



SEPT. 20 Helping to make New Jersey a home for economic growth and job creation, the Governor announced that [Coca Cola Enterprises](#) will soon break ground on a new, state-of-the-art, environmentally sustainable facility in South Brunswick.

[Growing New Jersey's economy](#) by the numbers: A list of economic growth since January.

SEPT. 21 Stressing the long-term importance of the Bayonne Bridge as a vital infrastructure investment and critical to the Administration's economic development and job creation efforts, Governor Chris Christie supports the [Port Authority](#) of New York and New Jersey's approval of \$1 billion in its capital planning process to modernize the aging structure.

Governor Chris Christie takes [action on legislation](#), including signing A-355/S-1073 (Jasey, Voss, Moriarty/Turner, T. Kean) establishing a permanent Interdistrict Public School Choice Program.

SEPT. 23 Governor Chris Christie's administration announces that New Jersey will receive \$112 Million in federal funds for [anti-foreclosure initiatives](#).

SEPT. 24 Governor Christie joins Founder and CEO of Facebook Mark Zuckerberg and Mayor Cory Booker on the Oprah Winfrey Show to discuss \$100 million donation to the Newark School system.



SEPT. 28 Governor Christie's reforms build on a record of [improving education](#) in New Jersey

- Governor Christie has made education reform a top priority in his administration's first 8 Months
- The governor supports giving parents and children a choice to attend better schools.
- Students deserve high-quality and accountable teachers; teachers deserve to be rewarded for excellent achievement in the classroom.
- Reforming higher education is vital to creating jobs and spurring economic growth.
- The governor's bold reforms have garnered considerable attention of opinion makers in New Jersey and around the country.

Putting [New Jersey's children first](#) by challenging the system: Governor's education reforms challenge the status quo by putting student achievement first, empowering parents, and rewarding teachers.

- (Sept 28) [New York Post](#) - "...It's refreshing to see a politician who not only understands the need for serious education reform but is wholly committed to [Education Reform]..."



SEPT. 30 Governor Christie - "[Education is the civil rights issue of today.](#)" Details specific plans to empower parents with greater school choice and access, expand high-quality charter schools and spur innovative learning. By challenging the education status quo, Governor Christie is providing the leadership and solutions necessary to provide positive alternatives to perpetually failing schools.



OCT. 5 Governor Chris Christie announces that the administration of [Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo Langford](#) has entered into a partnership with the State through the Department of Community Affairs. The agreement will allow Atlantic City to avoid a steep increase in property taxes, as the State and City collaborate on the creation of a revitalized tourism and casino district as part of a long-term economic development plan.



OCT. 6 Governor Chris Christie signs into law S-1342, to rename the "[New Jersey Trauma Center](#)" at University Hospital the "Eric Munoz Trauma Center," after the late Assemblyman Eric Munoz.

OCT. 7 Citing duplications with current law and actions already being taken by his administration to assess public concerns with "[Kyleigh's Law](#)" provisions, Governor Chris Christie vetoes A-2740.

Governor Chris Christie accepts the recommendation of the ARC Project Executive Committee to [terminate the ARC Project](#) based on a 30-day review which confirmed the project is expected to substantially exceed its current budget.

OCT. 8 Governor Chris Christie issues statement after meeting with U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood stating that the project is still very costly but he has agreed to have [Executive Director of NJ Transit Jim Weinstein](#) work with U.S. Department of Transportation staff to study different options over the next two weeks.

Governor Chris Christie reacts to [COAH Court Decision](#), stating that the Assembly must act and put an end to the hopeless and outdated system.



OCT. 12 Citing the Legislature's misplaced priorities, Governor Christie [calls on the leaders of the state Legislature](#) to advance his pension and health benefits, education, and ethics reform agenda "to save our state."

OCT. 13 Governor Christie continues to streamline state government and spur economic activity by [announcing the appointment of members](#) to the Red Tape Review Commission, created by [Executive Order No. 41](#).

OCT. 15 A bipartisan group of New Jersey mayors [express support](#) for Governor Christie's urgency to pass tool kit bills.

OCT. 20 Governor Christie is featured in a [profile piece on NBC's The Today Show](#).

OCT. 21 Governor Christie [issues a statement](#) regarding the Atlantic City Alliance's \$30 million pledge to revitalize Atlantic City.

OCT. 27 Governor Chris Christie [exercises fiscal responsibility and protects New Jersey taxpayer dollars](#) by accepting the recommendation of NJ Transit Executive Director Jim Weinstein to [shutdown the ARC Tunnel](#).



OCT. 28 Governor Christie [announces members of the Education Effectiveness Task Force](#) established by [Executive Order No. 42](#). The Task Force will provide Governor Christie with recommendations for a fair and transparent system of educator evaluations.





NOV. 1 — The Christie Administration announces it is moving forward with a comprehensive plan to enact fiscal discipline and promote the prudent use of scarce property tax dollars by capping salaries for superintendents. The regulations, announced in July, will result in a salary reduction for more than 360 school superintendents who serve school districts with low numbers of students.

NOV. 7 — Governor Christie is a guest on NBC's Meet the Press with David Gregory.



NOV. 16 — Governor Christie calls on school administrators to share in the sacrifice by stating that there will be no superintendent contracts renegotiated above the \$175,000 cap before the cap goes into effect.

NOV. 17 — Governor Christie announces appointees to Mental Health Facilities Evaluation Task Force.

NOV. 18 — Governor Christie applauds the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for removing E-Z Pass perks to employees.



NOV. 23 — Governor Christie defends New Jersey's honor on Late Night with Jimmy Fallon.



NOV. 24 — The Christie Family serves meals at Trenton Area Soup Kitchen for Thanksgiving.

NOV. 26 — Governor Christie encourages New Jerseyans to support New Jersey small businesses by shopping locally the weekend after Thanksgiving.

NOV. 30 — During his keynote speech, Governor Christie highlights the importance of education for our future generations at the Foundation for Excellence in Education in Washington, D.C.



DEC. 2 — Governor Christie continues to fight for New Jersey taxpayers by [retaining a law firm](#) to challenge the Federal Transit Administration's attempt to bill New Jersey \$271 million relating to the cancellation of the ARC Tunnel.

DEC. 3 — Governor Christie and the New Jersey Assembly [reach a bi-partisan agreement on medical marijuana regulations](#).

DEC. 7 — Governor Chris Christie signs [Comprehensive Concussion Safety Bill](#) to protect New Jersey's student-athletes with NFL Commissioner, Owners of NY Giants and NY Jets, DHSS Commissioner, Former NFL Players, Legislators, Student-Athletes, and Head Trauma Awareness Community join Governor Christie



DEC. 9 — Governor Christie [fulfills pledge](#) to clean up and Restore Barnegat Bay; announces comprehensive plan of action

— Governor Chris Christie reaches bipartisan agreement on critical tool kit measures, long-overdue [arbitration reform](#) transforms system

— Governor Chris Christie issues a conditional veto of Senate Bill 2220, a tool kit bill and element of the Christie Reform Agenda, to strengthen and improve upon the bill and more [effectively stop the abuse of sick and vacation benefits](#), or supplemental compensation.

DEC.10 — Governor Christie signs legislation establishing [Teen Cancer Awareness Week](#).

DEC.17 — Governor Chris Christie announces [solution to keep](#) Standardbred racing at the Meadowlands.

— Christie Administration takes action to move forward transition of [New Jersey Network](#).

DEC.20 — Governor Chris Christie names [Christopher Cerf](#) to lead New Jersey Department of Education.

DEC.21 — Governor Christie signs key reform agenda legislation to transform system on [long-overdue Arbitration Reform](#).

DEC.23 — Mall of America owners sign a letter of intent to acquire the unfinished [Xanadu project at the Meadowlands](#).

DEC.31 — Governor Chris Christie [signs a letter](#) to President Barack Obama seeking a major disaster declaration to secure federal funding and ensure New Jersey communities most affected by the storm receive all possible resources to address extraordinary and unforeseen costs from the snow emergency.



2011

JAN. 4 — Governor Christie receives [Higher Education Task Force recommendations](#) and signs Executive Orders to create [Governor's Higher Education Council](#) and [Advisory Committee on Graduate Medical Education](#).
[Governor Christie](#) – "We need to make a greater commitment and investment to higher education in New Jersey."

JAN. 5 — Following through on his pledge to fulfill a top environmental priority, Governor Chris Christie today signs into [law three bills to improve the health of Barnegat Bay](#), as components of his comprehensive plan for the long-term restoration of this 660-square mile ecological gem and his commitment to improving water quality statewide.

— Governor signs the "[Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act](#)" into law.

— Taking action to create jobs and move forward with the Administration's efforts to revitalize Atlantic City's tourism and gaming industries, Governor Chris Christie [signs Senate Bill 1866](#), legislation that provides for the issuance of two new casino licenses for facilities with a lower minimum bedroom requirement of 200 rooms rather than the 500 mandated under current law.

JAN. 6 — Governor Christie puts forward [responsible transportation capital plan](#) that reduces borrowing and improves critical infrastructure.

JAN. 7 — Governor Christie signs legislation proposed by administration to ensure New Jersey remains competitive in attracting and retaining businesses.

JAN. 11 — Governor Christie gives his first State of the State Address.

Days in office: [357](#)

