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What They Are Saying...Environmental Leaders, Local Leaders, Newspaper Editorials & Elected Officials Agree

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Environmental Leaders, "Gov. Christie and the Legislature deserve kudos for taking the first steps to deliver for the Shore"...

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Jeff Tittel, director of the New Jersey Sierra Club:

"Today is a victory for the environment. ...Without these bills, especially the fertilizer bill, the Bay will die. ...These three bills are three of the most important first steps..." (Rob Spahr, "Christie signs Barnegat Bay legislation in Ocean County, Press of Atlantic City, 1/5/2011)

"...said the law restoring soil affected by construction would have a statewide effect on "recharging" aquifers. He noted that soil compacted during construction can lead to as much runoff as pavement. He added that without the laws — especially the measure regulating fertilizers — the bay would "die." (Andrew Kitchenman, "Christie signs bills to clean up Barnegat Bay, will affect entire state," NJBIZ, 1/5/2011)

Dena Mottola Jaborska, Executive Director of Environment New Jersey:

"This is a big day for the Barnegat Bay and the state's waterways – fertilizer pollution is the invisible scourge that has been slowly polluting our bays, rivers and streams...Gov. Christie and the Legislature deserve kudos for taking the first steps to deliver for the Shore." ("Tide Starts to Turn: Gov. Christie Takes First Step for the Shore with 3 Bills," Environment New Jersey Press Release, 1/5/2011)

Rick Bushnell of ReClam the Bay, the volunteer shellfish restoration and public education group:

"I think this is the first time I've seen recognition that it's a multifaceted problem...It seemed in the past politicians always seized on the environmental cause du jour. This is the first time that's all come together." (Kirk Moore, "N.J. begins Barnegat Bay rescue," Asbury Park Press, 1/5/2011)

Tim Dillingham, Executive Director of American Littoral Society:

"Barnegat Bay is dying...These bills are part of the solution to bringing the Bay back to health...The Governor's support for these bills was important to their becoming law, and being brought to bear on cleaning up the Bay." ("Littoral Society Commends Governor Christie for Signing Bills in Barnegat Bay Package," American Littoral Society Press Release, 1/5/2011)

William deCamp Jr. of Save Barnegat Bay:

"This is a very significant start..." (Kirk Moore, "N.J. begins Barnegat Bay rescue," Asbury Park Press, 1/5/2011)

Local Leaders. "...it took a governor like this to make the common sense decisions to address the problem"...

Mayor Ray Gormley of Little Egg Harbor Township:

"All of the millions of gallons of nutrients that have flowed into the bay each year have ultimately made it difficult for things, like the clams and oysters that people enjoy eating, to grow...The regrettable thing is it took a governor like this to make the common sense decisions to address the problem that, over the course of time, has become more and more obvious." (Rob Spahr, "Christie signs Barnegat Bay legislation in Ocean County, Press of Atlantic City, 1/5/2011)

Mayor Joseph Lachawiec of Ocean Township:

"...said he was honored Christie chose his township as the location to sign the bill. "We are very much a fishing, boating,

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swimming community, so we count a lot on the health of the bay," Lachawiec said. "And when the Governor's Office called out of the blue on Monday asking us if Waretown was available, I said 'absolutely.' This is an important moment. And we'd do anything to support the governor. He's loquacious, but we love him." (Rob Spahr, "Christie signs Barnegat Bay legislation in Ocean County," *Press of Atlantic City*, 1/5/2011)

Newspaper Editorials. Governor Christie "has gone a long way toward fulfilling" his campaign promise to protect Barnegat Bay...

Asbury Park Press:

"When Chris Christie campaigned for governor, he promised to protect Barnegat Bay from further degradation and to work to restore its health. With his signature Wednesday on three bills designed to do just that, he has gone a long way toward fulfilling that promise...New Jerseyans should be proud of the nonpartisan, bipartisan spirit that went into the passage of these bills, and they should celebrate a new beginning for the state treasure that is Barnegat Bay." ("Boost for the Bay," *Asbury Park Press*, 1/6/2011)

Elected Officials. "This is a monumental victory for the environment"...

Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee Chairman John F. McKeon (D-Essex):

"...hailed today's signing into law of a multi-bill package to reduce contamination in Barnegat Bay while announcing that New Jersey must continue efforts to protect and preserve its natural resources. "This is a monumental victory for the environment...Wednesday's bill signing empowers New Jersey with a comprehensive package of legislation, including the nation's strongest lawn fertilizer law, to turn the tide on the degradation of Barnegat Bay...Rapid overdevelopment and elevated levels of phosphorus and nitrogen threaten to deteriorate Barnegat Bay into a toxic soup," McKeon said. "Experts predict the collapse of the bay's ecosystems within a generation if we fail to take preventive action. These laws will help revive the health of the bay - an ecological jewel and an important economic driver that contributes \$3.3 billion annually to the state's economy." ("Multi-Bill Package To Turn The Tide On Degradation Of Barnegat Bay Signed Into Law," *New Jersey Assembly Democrats Press Release*, 1/5/2011)

Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-Princeton):

"Legislative action has been long overdue in protecting Barnegat Bay, one of New Jersey's most unique natural habitats," Gusciora (D-Princeton) said. "The fertilizer law is crucial to assuring the health and beauty of our waterways. It will protect fish and other aquatic life and reduce pollution in New Jersey's largest enclosed estuary." ("Multi-Bill Package To Turn The Tide On Degradation Of Barnegat Bay Signed Into Law," *New Jersey Assembly Democrats Press Release*, 1/5/2011)

Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttel (D-Bergen):

"By reducing nutrient pollution, this law will control the growth of creatures that act as a deterrent to tourism by causing great discomfort to visitors of the bay...It will reverse decades of neglect to one of our state's unique waterways and educate home owners on the responsible use of fertilizer." ("Multi-Bill Package To Turn The Tide On Degradation Of Barnegat Bay Signed Into Law," *New Jersey Assembly Democrats Press Release*, 1/5/2011)

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