

Office of the Governor

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NEWS RELEASE

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Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following pieces of legislation:

S-280, sponsored by Senator John A. Girgenti (D- Passaic), amends child labor laws to permit minors, who are 14 or 15, to be employed as little league umpires for leagues chartered by Little League Baseball, Incorporated, until 9:00 p. m. with written permission from a parent or legal guardian. Under current law, minors under 16, with a few exceptions during the summer months, are not permitted to work before 7:00 a. m. or after 7:00 p. m.

S-213 establishes a basic level of electrical standards for certain swimming pools, hot tubs or spas located on any property other than a one or two-family residential property, including but not limited to, swimming pools open for use of members, residents or the public.

The bill, which is designed to improve safety conditions for workers and the public, supplements the State Uniform Construction Code Act. It requires a pool to have a valid bonding and grounding certificate and an electrical certificate of compliance issued by the municipality.

The bill was sponsored by Senator Nicholas J. Sacco (R- Bergen/Hudson) and Assembly Members Anthony Imprevuto (D- Bergen/Hudson) and Joan M. Quigley (D-Bergen/Hudson).

S-926, sponsored by Senator Gerald Cardinale (R-Bergen) and Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington/Camden) and Assembly Members Nilsa Cruz-Perez (D-Camden/Gloucester) and John V. Kelly (R- Bergen/Passaic), repeals a 1987 state law which required family day care centers to be subject to the same restrictions as other home occupations under local zoning laws.

In 1991, the Legislature enacted a law that specified that registered family day care homes are permitted uses in all residential districts and are subject to the same requirements as single family dwellings only, but it did not repeal the 1987 law. A family day care home is defined as a private residence in which child care services are provided to no less than three and no more than five children at any one time for a minimum of 15 hours per week.

A-1859, sponsored by Assembly Members Kenneth C. LeFevre (R-Atlantic) and Francis J. Blee (R-Atlantic) and Senator William L. Gormley (R-Atlantic), allows the Casino Control Commission to authorize each poker dealer to retain tips or gratuities from patrons at the table at which the dealer is conducting play. Under previous law, poker dealers' tips could only be pooled with tips received by other poker dealers. Now, either option is permissible.