

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor
Julie Plocinik
(609) 777-2600

TRENTON, NJ 08625

RELEASE: January 20, 1998

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

A-98, sponsored by Assembly Member John Rooney (R-Bergen) and former Assembly member Anthony Bucco (R-Morris), which requires certain public bidders to specify subcontractor's scope of work. The bill clarifies the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law that govern the responsibility of a general contractor who lists multiple subcontractors for a given category.

A-229, sponsored by Assembly Member Rudy Garcia (D-Hudson) and Mel Cottrell (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Senator Robert Singer (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and the late Senator William Haines (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Camden), which excludes United States military pensions from the New Jersey state income tax. The bill includes the Governor's recommendation that the exemption apply only to people over the age of 62 or disabled military pensioners.

A-1223, sponsored by Assembly Members Alan M. Augustine (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Michael J. Arnone and Senator Joseph A. Palaia (both R-Monmouth), grants municipalities the discretion to offer business administrators a three-months' notice, or a minimum of three months' salary, as a severance package if the removal of the business administrator is without good cause. Good cause is defined by the bill as the conviction of a crime or offense involving moral turpitude, the violation of any statute involving the duties of business administrators, or the violation of any code of ethics in effect within the municipality.

A-3315, sponsored by Assembly Members Rose Marie Heck (R-Bergen) and Walter J. Kavanaugh (R-Morris/Somerset) and Senators William L. Gormley (R-Atlantic) and Wayne R. Bryant (D-Camden/Gloucester), appropriates \$5 million to the judiciary from the New Jersey General Fund for court services. Of the \$5 million, \$2,250,000 million is targeted for additional personnel for the family courts in the area of domestic violence hearing officers and other support staff, and \$750,000 for additional personnel for probation services to handle rising adult and juvenile case loads. The balance of \$2 million was appropriated for field operations.

A-1418, sponsored by Assembly Members John Garrett (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Alan Augustine (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Senator Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex), which provides that licensed audiologists and speech-language pathologists are eligible for reimbursement under certain health insurance policies.

A-1535, sponsored by Assembly Member Kip Bateman (R- Morris/Somerset), former Assembly Member Walter Kavanaugh (R- Morris/Somerset) and Senators Henry McNamara (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Robert Martin (R- Essex/Morris/Passaic), which appropriates \$2.3 million from 1969 "Water Conservation Bond Act" to acquire lands in the Highlands area. The projects will ensure the preservation and protection natural resources in the Highlands area.

A-2037, sponsored by Assembly Members Jim Holzapfel (R- Monmouth/Ocean) and David Wolfe (R- Monmouth/Ocean) and Senator Andrew Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean), which allows persons incarcerated by order of the family court on grounds of contempt of court to participate in work release programs.

A-2818, sponsored by Assembly Members David Russo (R- Bergen/Passaic) and Gerald Zecker (R- Essex/Passaic) and Senators Gerald Cardinale (R-Bergen) and Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex), which requires insurance companies to register with the Superior Court the names of representatives authorized to write bail.

A-2896, sponsored by Assembly Member Jack Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/ Cumberland) and Assembly Speaker Jack Collins (R- Salem/Cumberland/ Gloucester), which exempts certain farm underground storage tanks from certain regulatory requirements. The bill allows persons performing tank closures on a farm to comply with guidelines and criteria without the supervision of DEP.

A-2320, sponsored by Assembly Members Joel Weingarten (R- Essex/Union) and Alan Augustine (R- Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union), concerns limited liability companies and partnerships and the defense of usury. The bill amends current civil usury statute to include newly created forms of business corporations, namely limited liability companies and partnerships.

A-3009, sponsored by Assembly Minority Leader Joseph Doria (D- Hudson) and Assembly Member Anthony Imprevaduto (D-Bergen/Hudson) and Senators John Kelly (R-Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Bernard Kenny (D-Hudson), which clarifies exemptions from education requirements under Local Redevelopment and Housing Law.

A-3024, sponsored by Assembly member Paul DiGaetano (R- Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Senate President Don DiFrancesco (R- Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union), which permits the Waterfront Commission of New York and New Jersey to grant permanent registration in longshoremen's register to certain temporary registrants. In order for this bill to take effect, New York must pass similar legislation.

A-3306, sponsored by Assembly Member Scott Garrett (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Senator Joe Kyrillos (R- Middlesex/Morris), which clarifies insurance coverage compliance requirement for out-of-state automobiles and motor vehicles. The bill ensures that New Jersey residents who are uninsured pedestrians or passengers will be covered under personal injury protection (PIP) when injured in the state by an out of state driver.

SJR-17, sponsored by Senator Lou Kosco (R-Bergen), which makes additional designations to Korean War Memorial Highway (Interstate Highway Route 287) as it passes through Somerset and Middlesex Counties. The section in Somerset is designated as Korean War Memorial Highway/Joseph Azzolina, Captain, Retired U.S. Navy. The section in Middlesex is designated as Korean War Memorial Highway/Richard F. Lauer, Lt. Colonel, Retired, U.S. Army.

S-246, sponsored by Senator Raymond Zane (D- Salem/Cumberland/Gloucester) and Assembly Member Gary Stuhltrager (R-Salem/Cumberland/Gloucester), which prohibits use or storage of certain hazardous substances, except in emergent situations, in schools and child care centers when children are present.

S-271, sponsored by Senator Gerald Cardinale (R-Bergen), prohibits bylaws of certain cooperative associations from containing clauses unreasonably prohibiting rental. The bill is intended to enable certain unit-owners to rent their unit until they are able to find an appropriate buyer in a favorable market.

S-302, sponsored by Senator John O. Bennett and Assembly Members Clare M. Farragher and Michael J. Arnone (all R-Monmouth), authorizes the use of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) as an alternative fuel for school

buses. LPG is defined in the bill to mean butane, butylene, propane, or propylene. The bill allows LPG to be used in addition to, or in combination with, conventional fuels.

S-373, sponsored by Senator Gordon MacInnes (D-Morris) permits the administration of epinephrine via epi-pen by school nurse or trained individuals. The bill includes the Governor's recommendation that it apply to private as well as public schools. The medication is used to counter-act life-threatening allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis.

S-674, sponsored by Senator Peter A. Inverso (R-Mercer /Middlesex) and John A. Lynch (D-Middlesex/Somerset/Union), permits a real estate investment trust to use the term "trust" in its name without first obtaining the permission of the Commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance. A real estate investment trust is a corporation, trust or association that meets certain criteria set forth in the United States Internal Revenue Service Code. Currently, only banking institutions or bank holding companies may use the word, trust, as part of their names.

S-1072, sponsored by Senators Joe Palaia (R-Monmouth) and John Matheussen (R-Camden/Gloucester) and Assembly Members Claire Farragher (R-Monmouth) and Michael Arnone (R-Monmouth), which requires the filing of a written report of any alleged pupil assault upon a school employee.

S-1235, sponsored by Senator Raymond Zane (D- Salem/Cumberland/Gloucester) and Assembly members Charles Zisa (D- Bergen) and Loretta Weinberg (D-Bergen), which requires interior light of motor vehicle to be turned on when stopped by police at night. A driver who refuses to comply with an officer's request would be subject to a \$50 fine.

S-1253, sponsored by Senator James Cafiero (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Assembly Members Ken LeFevre (R- Atlantic) and Neil Cohen (D-Union, which provides that time limitations in New Jersey Parentage Act do not preclude the establishment of a parent and child relationship for purposes of intestate succession or under laws governing probate. The bill is intended to afford an opportunity for illegitimate children of any age to establish parentage for the purposes of inheritance.

S-1332, sponsored by Senators Joe Kyrillos (R-Middlesex/Monmouth) and Robert Singer (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Assembly Members Charlotte Vandervalk (R-Bergen) and Scott Garrett (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris), which provides limited civil liability immunity to farmers for pick-your-own operations.

S-1435, sponsored by former Senator Dick LaRossa (R-Mercer), which provides an exception to the definition of "at-fault accidents" for accidents involving physicians responding to medical emergencies.

S-1649, sponsored by Senators Joe Kyrillos (R-Middlesex/Monmouth) and Andrew Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Assembly Members Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth) and David Wolfe (R-Monmouth/Ocean), which establishes a priority list and legislative approval of shore protection projects. The bill requires the establishment of a priority system for ranking shore protection projects and a priority list to be submitted to the Legislature. The Legislature would be required to approve the list by June 1 of each year.

S-1739, sponsored by Senator Lou Kosco (R-Bergen) and John Girgenti(D-Passaic) and Assembly Members Nick Asselta (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and John Gibson(R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland), which criminalizes possession or sale of phony auto insurance identification cards. The bill makes it a disorderly persons offense to knowingly possess or display a phony card to a police officer or judge. The offense is punishable by a maximum of six months in prison, a fine of \$1,000 or both. The bill also provides that a person who provides or sells a phony identification card will be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

S-1785, sponsored by Senator Robert Martin (R- Essex/Morris/Passaic), which expands municipal authority over motor vehicle towing and storage charges. Previously, such rules were promulgated by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance.

S-1878, sponsored by Senators John Matheussen (R-Camden/Gloucester) and Joe Bubba (R-Essex/Passaic) and Assembly Members Francis Blee (R-Atlantic) and Sean Dalton (D-Camden/Gloucester), which implements the Emergency Services Volunteer Length of Service Award Program Act. The bill grants municipalities and fire districts the discretion to offer volunteer firefighters, first aid and rescue squad members retirement annuities as recruitment and retention tool.

S-1931, sponsored by Senator John Matheussen (R- Camden/Gloucester) and Assembly Members John Arnone (R-Monmouth) and George Geist (R-Camden/ Gloucester), which reduces continuous service requirement for tenure of municipal court administrators to five years. Current law provides that the governing body pass a resolution authorizing tenure. The bill, an initiative of the AOC and MCAA, is intended to provide an incentive for certification and will, thus, help professionalize the position of municipal court administrator.

S-1962, sponsored by Senators Lou Bassano (R-Essex/Union) and Robert Singer (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Assembly Member Nick Felice (R-Bergen/Passaic), which reduces certain certificate of need application fees.

S-2007, sponsored by Senator Robert Littell (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Hudson) and Assembly Members Guy Gregg (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Leonard Lance (R- Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer), which authorizes Division of Fish Game and Wildlife personnel to use certain weapons when controlling or conducting research on wildlife.

S-2010, sponsored by Senator Peter Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Assembly Member Marion Crecco (R-Essex/Passaic), permits certain retired public employees who later become employed in a position covered by PERS to be enrolled in PERS. The bill is intended to apply to former members of the City of Newark Retirement System to enroll in PERS.

S-2028, sponsored by Senator Peter Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Assembly Members Kip Bateman (R-Morris/Somerset) and Joel Weingarten (R-Essex/Union), which revises law on letters of credit. The bill replaces existing code with the Uniform Commercial Code Revised Chapter 5. The bill is intended to update the law to accommodate changes in technology in the banking industry.

S-2117, sponsored by Senator James Cafiero (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Assembly Members Nick Asselta (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and John Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland), which allows retirees to purchase service credit for certain prior employment. The bill reopens the window of opportunity to purchase up to ten years of credit for past service for an additional 30 day period following the enactment of the bill.

S-2273, sponsored by Senator Leonard Connors (R- Atlantic/Burlington/Ocean) and Andrew Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Assembly Members Jeffrey Moran (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Ocean) and Chris Connors (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Ocean), which appropriates \$540,685 to the Department of Corrections from the 1982 Bond Act for renovation of the Ocean County Correctional Facility.

S-2336, sponsored by Senators Robert Singer (R- Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and John Adler (D-Camden) and Assembly Members Jeffrey Moran (R-Atlantic/Burlington /Ocean) and Anthony Impreveduto (D-Bergen/Hudson), which allows interior designers to enter into business relationships which architects under certain circumstances. The bill would change current law to allow interior designers to employ or be employed by licensed architects. The bill requires architects to exercise independent professional judgement when affiliated with an interior designer.

S-913, sponsored by Senator Joseph M. Kyrillos, Jr. (R- Middlesex/Monmouth) and Assembly Members Paul DiGaetano (R- Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Tom Smith (R-Monmouth), requires construction contract disputes subject to the "Local Public Contracts Law" to be submitted to arbitration or another binding alternative dispute resolution procedure.

S-1236, sponsored by Senator Zane (D-Salem/Cumberland/Gloucester) and Assembly Member James W. Holzapfel (R-Monmouth/Ocean), streamlines the firearms training process by allowing training to begin prior to

the student's having obtained a gun permit. The bill permits certified firearms instructors to transfer a firearm temporarily to a student enrolled in a training course for the use, handling and maintenance of firearms. The student must be under the direct supervision and in the presence of the instructor and the transfer must take place on a firing range. The instructor cannot knowingly transfer a firearm to a person who does not meet the legal qualifications for obtaining a gun permit.

S-1405, sponsored by Senator Gerald Cardinale, (R-Bergen), requires prepaid prescription service organizations to obtain certificates of authority from the Department of Banking and Insurance and provides that a prepaid service organization must provide every contract holder and enrollee with evidence of coverage.

S-1762, sponsored by Senator Joe Kyrillos (R-Middlesex/Monmouth) and Joe Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Assembly Members Joe Azzolina (R- Middlesex/Monmouth) and Rose Heck (R-Bergen), which makes various changes to the laws governing the conduct of raffles. The bill is intended to assist charitable, civic and service organizations in conducting raffles to raise funds for educational, charitable, patriotic, religious and public-spirited purposes.

S-2335, sponsored by Senators Robert Litell (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Robert Singer (R- Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Assembly Members Guty Gregg (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Connie Myers (R- Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer), which establishes the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact Act. The bill is intended to strengthen New Jersey's dairy industry. The interstate compact commission will set a minimum price paid by dairy processors to dairy farmers in the region. The compact will regulate the price of milk used for fluid consumption in the compact region, regardless of where the milk originates.

A-670, sponsored by Assembly Member Richard H. Bagger (R- Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union), exempts the international ship operation income of foreign national shipping companies and the international aircraft operation income of foreign airline companies from New Jersey corporation business tax if the companies' home countries provide a similar exemption for the income of Unites States shipping and airline companies.

A-840, sponsored by Assembly Member Michael J. Arnone (R- Monmouth), revises current statutory law to reflect the modern titles and duties of certain health officials and inspectors.

A-3142, sponsored by Assembly Members John C. Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and David W. Wolfe (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Senators James S. Cafiero (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and John O. Bennett (R-Monmouth), appropriates \$5 million from two bond funds for shore protection projects in fiscal year 1998. The bill originally provided for funding for the project through a General Fund appropriation. The Governor conditionally vetoed this bill to fund these projects using two bond funds rather than the General Fund.

#####
