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## NEWS RELEASE

Gov. Whitman today conditionally vetoed the following bills:

**A-2804**, sponsored by Assembly Members Christopher Bateman (R-Morris/Somerset) and Joel Weingarten (R-Essex/Union) and Senators Walter Kavanaugh (R-Morris/Somerset) and Peter Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex), modernizes New Jersey's trust laws by permitting interstate trust banking and allowing New Jersey-based institutions to offer new trust products. The Governor amended the bill, arguing that banks may delegate fundamental trust powers without requiring any adjustment in the commissions charged by the bank. As passed by the Legislature, the bill did not apply the standards of the Prudent Investor Act to non-investment functions delegated to a third party by a qualified bank. The Governor's recommended changes set forth an appropriate standard by which a bank can compensate third parties that are delegated non-investment trust duties.

**A-994**, sponsored by Assembly Members Kenneth LeFevre (R-Atlantic) and Neil Cohen (D-Union) makes it a fourth degree crime to solicit or recruit members into a criminal street gang. While supporting the bill, the Governor changed the definition of criminal street gang member. As passed, the bill defines a criminal street gang as having at least two prior "convictions" within the last three years for certain crimes committed while engaged in gang activity. The Governor recommended changing the standard to gang members who have "committed, conspired, or attempted to commit" two or more of the enumerated offenses because technically juveniles who commit crimes are not convicted. The Governor pointed out that gangs often target juveniles because they are less likely to have charges against them adjudicated in adult court.

Copies of the Governor's conditional veto messages are attached.

