

May 6, 2013

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 2982
(First Reprint)

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 2982 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill would provide State Lottery winners the option to remain anonymous for one year after claiming a prize.

I appreciate the sponsors' desire to help Lottery winners avoid unwanted publicity and the potential burdens that can often accompany their good fortunes. The benefits of anonymity, however, must be balanced against the effects on both transparency and the mission of the Lottery, which is to produce the maximum amount of revenues for education and State institutions. This bill could undermine the transparency that provides taxpayers confidence in the integrity of the Lottery and its games. Moreover, the bill could have the unintended consequence of reducing Lottery sales by hampering marketing efforts and the public excitement generated when Lottery winners are announced. Given these concerns, a more prudent approach would be to better understand the consequences of the bill before it is enacted.

Therefore, I am returning this bill with my recommendation that the State Treasurer undertake a review of the applicable laws, regulations, and rules concerning the disclosure of lottery winners in New Jersey and other jurisdictions. The Treasurer shall develop findings and recommendations on how delayed disclosure of lottery winners affects both lottery integrity and lottery sales. The Treasurer should report such findings and recommendations directly to me no later than December 31, 2013.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 2982
(First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

<u>Page 2, Title, Line 2:</u>	Delete "and amending P.L.1970, c.13"
<u>Page 2, Section 1, Lines 7-44:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 3, Section 1, Lines 1-48:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 4, Section 1, Lines 1-30:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 4, Line 31:</u>	Insert new section 1: "1. The State Treasurer shall undertake a review of the disclosure and nondisclosure of lottery winners in New Jersey and other jurisdictions and how nondisclosure affects transparency and lottery sales. The Treasurer shall report any findings and recommendations directly to the Governor no later than December 31, 2013."

Respectfully,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Charles B. McKenna

Chief Counsel to the Governor