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NEWS RELEASE

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Governor Whitman to Accept Property Tax Commission Report

Gov. Christie Whitman tomorrow will formally accept the report of the Property Tax Commission and will announce initiatives to reduce property taxes in New Jersey.

Gov. Whitman will also highlight her upcoming trade and investment mission to Mexico during a visit to the art exhibit of Juan Soriano, a celebrated Mexican Artist, at the State Museum in Trenton.

Juan Soriano, who was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, is a painter and sculptor who has been awarded the National Art Prize of Mexico and the Jose Clemente Orozco prize from the State of Jalisco.

Members of the Governor's trade delegation, Commerce Commissioner Gil Medina and Acting Secretary of State Carol Cronheim will join the Governor at the reception.

Gov. Christie Whitman will lead a trade and investment mission to the Republic of Mexico, September 20-25 aimed at expanding trade opportunities between New Jersey and Mexico. The Governor will be joined by Commerce Commissioner Gil Medina and a delegation of approximately 30 corporate leaders from small, medium and Fortune 500 New Jersey firms with trade and investment interests in Mexico.

Mexico is New Jersey's 5th largest trade and investment partner. In 1997, New Jersey exports to Mexico reached \$993 million, an increase of 31 percent over the previous year.