

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4701

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 4701 with my recommendations for reconsideration.

Assembly Bill No. 4701 implements, through an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations Act, a per diem Medicaid rate increase from \$86.10 to \$89.54 for adult medical day care providers and contains a supplemental appropriation of \$3.6 million to the Department of Human Services for State Fiscal Year 2023.

While I applaud my colleagues in the Legislature for their support for the adult medical day care industry, which provides vital services to a vulnerable population, this rate increase and accompanying supplemental appropriation are now moot, as Fiscal Year 2023 ends today, June 30th. Moreover, I am pleased to have reached a comprehensive deal with my partners in the Legislature concerning the State's spending plan for Fiscal Year 2024, fulfilling our shared constitutional obligations to enact a single appropriations law governing overall State spending needs for the year. That plan implements a \$89.55 minimum per diem rate for adult medical day care providers, rendering the current text of Assembly Bill No. 4701 unnecessary.

Another element of that comprehensive deal was the allocation of \$25,000,000 from the New Jersey Affordable Housing Trust Fund to New Jersey chapters of Habitat for Humanity to support the construction, rehabilitation, or both, of affordable homes to be owned and occupied by low- and moderate-income households. Unfortunately, however, the Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations bill does not accurately reflect the components of that agreement. My recommended amendments for Assembly Bill No. 4701 thus include an additional supplemental appropriation for the upcoming Fiscal Year

to facilitate the provision of grants to two New Jersey Habitat for Humanity chapters, who will then be able to provide subgrants to additional chapters throughout the State. This allocation complements several measures in this year's budget agreement dedicated to the construction of affordable housing in New Jersey.

Therefore, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 4701 and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 2, Title, Line 1: Delete "A SUPPLEMENT" and insert "AN ACT"

Page 2, Title, Line 1: Delete "the annual" and insert "Supplement "An act making"

Page 2, Title, Line 1: Delete "act" and insert "for the support for the State Government and the several public purposes for"

Page 2, Title, Line 2: Delete "2023, P.L.2022, c.49" and insert "2024 and regulating the disbursement thereof," approved June 30, 2023"

Page 2, Section 1, Lines 7-22: Delete in their entirety.

Page 2, Section 2, Line 24: Delete "2." and insert "1."

Page 2, Section 2, Lines 24-25: Delete "P.L.2022, c.49" and insert "P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as Senate Bill No. 2024 and Assembly Bill No. 5669)""

Page 2, Section 2, Line 26: Delete "2023, is amended to read as follows" and insert "2024, is added"

Page 2, Section 2, Lines 28-40: Delete in their entirety and insert:

22 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

40 Community Development and Environmental Management

41 Community Development Management

GRANTS-IN-AID

Notwithstanding the provisions of any law or regulation to the contrary, \$25,000,000 is appropriated from the "New Jersey Affordable Housing Trust Fund" for grants of \$12,500,000 each to Habitat for Humanity of South Central

New Jersey and Morris Habitat for Humanity to be used for the construction or rehabilitation, or both, of dwelling units to be owned and occupied by low- and moderate-income households, which shall be conditioned upon the Department of Community Affairs and each grantee entering a grant agreement that shall contain such provisions as the Commissioner of Community Affairs may require to ensure that the purposes of the appropriation are achieved, and within such time frames as may be established by the Commissioner, and which terms may include the provision of subgrants to additional New Jersey Habitat for Humanity chapters for the same purposes, provided that the Department of Community Affairs is party to any subgrant agreement, subject to approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting.

Page 2, Section 3, Line 42:

[seal}

Delete "3." and insert "2."

Respectfully,

/s/ Philip D. Murphy

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Parimal Garg

Chief Counsel to the Governor