

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4253
(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. 4253 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill would establish a three-year New Jersey Nonprofit Security Grant Pilot Program to provide grants to eligible nonprofit organizations to hire permanent or temporary security personnel for the purpose of preparedness and reduction of vulnerability. In order to implement this bill, the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness would be required to establish a system of allocating grant money for the purpose of hiring law enforcement officers or security officers to supplement nonprofit organizations' existing security staff.

I agree with the sponsors that this is an important measure that will provide a much-needed increase to security for nonprofit organizations, particularly targeted religious organizations, in this volatile time. However, this bill provides an appropriation of \$1,000,000 annually, the first installment of which is already included in the Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Act that I approved. I am recommending technical changes that will remove reference to this appropriation, as it has already been accounted for in the approved budget.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 4253 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

<u>Page 2, Title, Line 2:</u>	Delete "and making an appropriation"
<u>Page 3, Section 3, Lines 19-20:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 3, Section 3, Line 21:</u>	Delete "of the three years of the program to be"

Page 3, Section 3, Line 22:

After "organizations" delete
", "

[seal]

Respectfully,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ James J. DiGiulio

Chief Counsel to the Governor