

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

August 23, 2010

SENATE BILL NO. 1794  
(First Reprint)

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 1794 (First Reprint) without my approval.

This bill would expand the definition of "qualifying municipality," within which projects may qualify for New Jersey Redevelopment Authority financing assistance, pursuant to the New Jersey Urban Redevelopment Act. Currently, only municipalities that are eligible to receive aid under the Special Municipal Aid Act or that are coextensive with a Special Needs School District under the Quality Education Act of 1990 are "qualifying municipalities" for purposes of New Jersey Redevelopment Authority assistance eligibility. This legislation would expand the scope of financial assistance eligibility to include projects within any municipality that is adjacent to two or more other "qualifying municipalities" in which an Urban Enterprise Zone is located, pursuant to the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act.

The New Jersey Redevelopment Authority is the legislatively-created entity charged with providing a coordinated effort to redevelop and revitalize urban areas within the State. By spreading the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority's jurisdiction to non-urban areas that happen to be bordered in part by qualifying municipalities with Urban Enterprise Zones, this bill would frustrate that mission. The State already benefits from an effective state-wide entity responsible for both urban and non-urban projects - the New Jersey Economic Development Authority. Moreover, the Lieutenant

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Governor has spearheaded the New Jersey Partnership for Action in order to transform New Jersey into a business-friendly environment and a home for economic growth. The New Jersey Economic Development Authority is a key component of the New Jersey Partnership for Action, and should serve as the starting point for businesses seeking financial assistance in the State. Because expanding the realm of the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority well beyond urban centers will result in an unnecessary duplication of efforts and frustrate the streamlined nature of the Lieutenant Governor's efforts, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 1794 (First Reprint) without my approval.

Respectfully,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/Jeffrey S. Chiesa

Chief Counsel to the Governor