

Office of the Governor

PO BOX 004
TRENTON, NJ 08625

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: JAYNE O'CONNOR
609-777-2600

RELEASE: June 5, 1998

Property Tax Commission Seeks Input from Citizens

Gov. Christie Whitman today announced that her Property Tax Commission will hold a fourth public hearing on Thursday, June 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Memorial High School in West New York. The hearing will give citizens an opportunity to make suggestions on ways that state and local governments can control and reduce property taxes.

Gov. Whitman formed the commission in December 1997 in response to a request from municipal leaders at the League of Municipalities annual conference. The Governor asked the members of the commission to review ways in which the state can help give local officials more tools to cut the cost of local government and lower property taxes. The commission is reviewing the costs associated with home rule and considering options for reform including shifting local services to different levels of government, increasing shared services and consolidation. The commission is also exploring whether alternatives to property taxation exist that will not increase the overall tax burden.

Citizens interested in offering comments to the commission will be asked to sign up at the beginning of the hearing.