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PREAMBLE

Democrats in New Jersey are proud of our state and its people, optimistic about New Jersey's future and dedicated to making a great state greater.

The source of our pride -- and of our optimism -- is the record of accomplishment which has been built through Democratic leadership and Democratic initiative.

We look forward to the campaign ahead because it provides an opportunity for Democrats to talk to the people of New Jersey about our record, and for the people to see that our opponents offer only empty talk and no record.

The Democratic campaign will be positive and hopeful, looking forward to what New Jersey can achieve through the hard work and cooperation of all its people.

The Republican campaign has been negative and scornful, complaining that our state is in terminal condition and claiming it can be revived only by painful doses of economic patent medicine and faith in Republican miracle cures.

If, indeed, the eyes of the nation will be on New Jersey this fall, Republicans will succeed only in damaging our state's reputation and demeaning the many people who work daily to build New Jersey's image and maintain state pride.

The Republican Party will fail in its other efforts because the people of New Jersey will not stand for a campaign which assaults their pride and insults their intelligence.

The fact is that people feel good about New Jersey today.

And that they're too smart to be taken in by a party and its candidates promising simplistic solutions and promoting simple campaign resolutions in response to the difficult and complex problems our state faces.

Voters are not willing to simply listen to what candidates promise; they demand to know what candidates and their parties have done.

And that's where Democrats have the advantage.

Democrats in New Jersey can point with pride to a record of accomplishment during the past eight years which is unequalled in the history of our state.

And we can proudly and enthusiastically compare that record to the history of Republican negativism and obstruction during the past eight years, and to what happened when Republicans last ran New Jersey.

This year, candidates from both parties will be talking about keeping taxes down.

But only Democrats have provided more money in property tax relief during the last five years than any government in state history.

Before Democrats adopted a tax relief program in 1976, property taxes were rising dramatically -- at a rate of nine per cent every year.

In the year following full implementation of the Democratic program, property taxes actually declined.

Since then, the rate of growth under Democrats has been less than half that under Republican rule.

And since 1976, over \$1.2 billion has been returned to taxpayers in homestead rebate checks.

Another \$256 million has been provided for senior citizens, veterans and the disabled in the form of a special property tax deduction.

iii.

In addition, the state has distributed \$275 million in state revenue sharing funds to municipalities -- funds which also go directly to relieve property taxes.

The Democratic tax relief program has provided more than \$1 billion every year in state aid to education. The total this year will reach \$1.8 billion -- more than twice as much than was provided in the last year of Republican control.

The people of New Jersey demanded property tax relief, and they have received it -- from Democrats.

This year, candidates from both parties will be talking about keeping government spending down.

But only Democrats have acted to sharply curb spending by state, county and local governments. The runaway spending at all levels of government when Republicans were in office in Trenton has been stopped.

Before Proposition 13 in California and before Republicans began talking about controlling government spending, Democrats in New Jersey enacted the nation's first limits of spending by state, county and local governments and school districts.

And the caps have worked.

The average annual rate of growth in the state's operating budget was almost 50 per cent higher under Republicans than during the last eight years under Democrats.

The total state budget also grew at a higher average annual rate under Republicans, although the more recent Democratic budgets have included more than \$5.5 billion for a new property tax relief program.

The story is the same on municipal budgets.

Their average annual rate of growth was twice as high under Republicans than in the years after the Democratic cap laws were enacted.

iv.

County budgets also have grown more slowly under Democrats.

In the last year under Republican control, county budgets increased by 16 per cent statewide. In 1981, they increased by three per cent. Under Democrats, the difference is dramatic.

The facts are clear, and no amount of campaign rhetoric can change them. Democrats have kept spending down. When they last had the chance, Republicans failed to do so.

Democrats have kept the cost of government down without ignoring the needs of people.

During the last eight years, a Democratic property tax relief program has returned more than \$3.7 billion to counties, municipalities and school districts in New Jersey and more than \$1.2 billion to taxpayers in the form of homestead rebates.

At the same time, Democrats have created and funded a pharmaceutical assistance program for the aged, a lifeline program of utility bill credits and payments for senior citizens and the disabled, an extensive intermediate care program for the mentally retarded, a hazardous waste control and disposal program, a tuition aid grant program for college students, and dozens of other new and innovative programs for people.

But as Democrats did all this:

-- the entire state budget grew at a lower than average annual rate than under Republicans.

-- the state's operating budget grew at a much lower average annual rate than under Republicans.

Only that part of the budget which is dedicated to state aid for people, local governments and schools grew at a higher average annual rate during the Democratic years than it did before.

v.

This is a remarkable record in which Democrats can take pride. And it was accomplished by Democrats during a time of double digit inflation -- a problem Republicans before us did not have to face.

Candidates from both parties will be talking about support for quality education.

But in the last eight years, Democrats have provided more state aid for education than in the entire prior history of state government.

Each year since 1977, school districts have received more than \$1 billion in education aid. Under Democrats, the annual state appropriation for education aid has more than doubled.

And while state aid has grown dramatically each year, local taxes to support schools have not. In the seven years before Democrats placed limits on school spending, school taxes grew at an average annual rate of over ten per cent. Since then, Democrats have kept average annual growth under four per cent.

Candidates from both parties will be talking about reducing business taxes to stimulate economic growth.

Republican candidates have proposed a massive billion-dollar giveaway to corporations without any evidence that the state's economy will really benefit or any indication as to how the billion dollars in lost state revenue will be replaced.

Democratic candidates will, instead, advance a comprehensive program for job creation and economic development, which will include the provision of targeted tax incentives to the small and new businesses which produce most new jobs.

The Republican proposal to cut corporate taxes is not designed to stimulate the state's economy. It was invented in the course of a campaign to win a primary election.

vi.

Already, Republicans are hedging about the tax cut plan -- particularly about the only component which might reduce taxes for people, rather than corporations.

The Democratic record on business taxation, in contrast, is the result of responsible and thoughtful action to relieve unnecessary tax burdens which discourage economic growth.

Democrats have kept business taxes in New Jersey lower than in the neighboring states of New York and Pennsylvania.

Since businesses pay about one-third of the property taxes in New Jersey, the Democratic property tax relief program has been an enormous benefit to businesses since its enactment in 1977. Democrats have returned \$4.2 billion to local governments and school districts, funds which otherwise could have been raised through local real estate taxes, including those on businesses.

In the last eight years, Democrats have repealed several regressive business taxes which have saved New Jersey businesses over \$350 million.

During Republican years, the corporation business tax was increased, a tax on business machinery and equipment (later repealed by Democrats) was imposed and the sales tax was increased.

And during those Republican years, there was no program for property tax relief.

Candidates from both parties will be talking about job creation and economic development.

But Democrats created the state Economic Development Agency which has stimulated over \$2.4 billion of capital construction and investment.

As a result of this large investment by the private sector made possible by the cooperation of government and business, over 50,000 permanent jobs and more than 29,000 construction jobs have been created.

vii.

Casino gambling, authorized by the people under tight controls imposed by Democrats, has brought several thousand construction jobs and 30,000 permanent jobs to Atlantic City.

Under Democrats, the number of men and women at work has increased eleven per cent over the number of jobs filled when Republicans were in Trenton. In May of this year, more people were at work in New Jersey than ever before in our state's history.

Democrats cut the state's unemployment rate in half during the past six years, while working for the development of urban industrial parks and the creation of a Department of Commerce and Economic Development to further expand our state's economy.

Candidates from both parties will be talking about the preservation and protection of our state's environment.

Democrats have acted to preserve the Pinelands, develop safe methods for disposal of hazardous wastes, extend the Spill Compensation and Control Act to cover abandoned hazardous waste sites, provide financing for resource recovery facilities, establish a comprehensive solid waste planning process, significantly reduce air pollution, expand open spaces, and clean up and protect our beaches and harbors.

Candidates from both parties will be talking about the need to preserve and protect the quality of New Jersey's water.

Democrats have made dramatic progress in improving water quality and in developing a water supply management policy for New Jersey. Democratic initiatives provided for an Oil Spill Compensation and Control program, construction of over \$1.5 billion in wastewater treatment facilities, enactment of legislation to control polluters, development of the first water supply master plan and effective action to prevent disaster during the recent drought emergency.

viii.

Candidates from both parties will be talking about the need for a modern and efficient transportation system for New Jersey.

Democrats have reorganized the state's bus network, put 1,600 new buses and 250 new railroad cars into operation, and worked to rehabilitate bridges, improve rail stations, fix highway intersections, and widen and resurface roadways throughout the state.

Candidates from both parties will be talking about crime.

Democrats have enacted a new criminal code which has put more criminals behind bars and kept them there. Democrats enacted mandatory sentences for violent crimes committed with guns and made sure career criminals spend their careers in jail. Democrats cracked down on the illegal disposal of toxic wastes.

Candidates from both parties will discuss many issues in the course of the campaign.

In each instance, the people of New Jersey will have a record of concrete Democratic accomplishments to compare to Republican slogans which toe the party line and offer vague promises.

Democrats believe in the people, and believe they will make a responsible and intelligent choice after looking at the record of the two parties.

It will be an important choice.

For this is a year of difficulty and decision for the people of New Jersey.

We face hardships and hard choices as we prepare for the shift of responsibilities from Washington to Trenton.

Assuming new burdens will require the ability and commitment of a new Democratic leadership dedicated to the work ethic upon which our country was built, experienced in managing government effectively with

ix.

limited resources, and determined to prevent the dismantling of necessary government services of real benefit to the people of New Jersey.

The Republican alternative is to thoughtlessly dismantle government, wastefully give away state revenues, callously cut worthwhile services and irresponsibly drive up local property taxes -- while gambling the state's future on an abstract and untried economic theory.

Our state has great traditions, and a great future.

The strength and character of New Jersey's people -- who live, work and worship in diverse communities throughout the state -- has sustained us, and has inspired a reawakening of pride in New Jersey.

Democrats share the people's belief that we have a great state.

We seek in 1981 to continue our work with, and on behalf of, the people of New Jersey to make it even greater.

JOBS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Democrats believe a strong economy--a positive environment for job creation and business prosperity--comes from a partnership of business, labor and government. Each member of this partnership has a role to play. The government's role is to provide certain basic services to citizens and business--transportation, public safety and educational services--that complement the private sector's contribution. Government, acting as a resource and active partner can help improve an already positive business climate. Democrats believe that with the partnership--with these tools--the future is bright.

New Jersey's economy contains a number of strengths that make it an attractive place to do business. Our research and facilities are second to none. The workforce is well-educated. Mass transportation and the highway system, while needing some capital improvements, are available for the movement of people and services. Our beautiful coastline and rural areas contain a thriving recreational industry. The Hudson, Newark and Camden port areas offer tremendous potential for increased foreign trade and a resurgent shipping industry. New Jersey is one of the best consumer marketplaces in the country, the hub of the Boston to Virginia megalopolis. Just beyond its borders, are the large New York and Philadelphia markets.

Over the last eight years, Democratic leadership has guided New Jersey through two serious national recessions. During the recovery from the second economic downturn, New Jersey led the Northeast in putting people back to work and returning to economic health. This quick recovery is a clear indication of the underlying strength of New Jersey's economic base. Much of this strength can be attributed to Democratic programs to build a healthy business environment.

Since the 1974-75 recession, a downturn Democrats can safely say was inherited from the Republicans, over 401,000 jobs have been created for New Jersey workers.

Democrats created the Economic Development Authority (EDA), which over the last eight years has assisted business in financing 1,416 plants and other job creation projects. Between 1974 and 1980, 53,750 new, permanent jobs have been created--including 29,600 construction jobs. The total new capital investment in New Jersey is over \$2.5 billion statewide.

Targeted development of specific regions has long been a Democratic party goal. Casino gambling has begun to return Atlantic City to its status as a major national resort. Not counting the construction and support service jobs, 30,000 new jobs have been created in the Casinos alone. Once a sea of garbage dumps, the Meadowlands has grown into a thriving business, residential and recreational center.

New Brunswick is undergoing a major revitalization of its downtown brought about by the unique cooperation of Rutgers University, Johnson and Johnson, and the municipal government. Newark, Elizabeth and Jersey City, through the efforts of the State Economic Development Authority have become the sites of the first urban industrial parks.

Democrats created special offices to attract specific kinds of new business. The number of motion pictures filmed in New Jersey has risen dramatically--most recently "Annie" and "Atlantic City," were filmed here. The Office of International Trade has increased contact with other countries seeking foreign investment. Port-of-Newark is an example of the increased use of a New Jersey Port for the import/export business.

In anticipation of a new focus in our state's technological opportunities in a changing world, Democrats saw to the creation of an Office of Technological Innovation.

Tourism is a major New Jersey industry. Over the past few years, the recreational industry has experienced significant growth. Clean beaches, beautiful hiking trails, major family entertainment centers, and major sporting events offer a wide variety of vacation activities. All of these attractions in New Jersey can

be enjoyed as a result of Democratic leadership and ideas.

The need for an office to promote New Jersey's tourism potential was recognized by Democrats and the Division of Travel and Tourism was created. Tourism is the second largest industry in the state and a new administration will encourage a greater partnership between state and local promotion efforts. Our tremendous vacation assets will provide new and expanded employment possibilities as well as encourage greater recognition of our state's year-round options. Mountains and the shore, convention centers, entertainment options, all make New Jersey a great location. We will continue to work with this industry to maximize the opportunities for its future.

In addition, Democrats will continue to provide assistance to those businesses which have long been the backbone of New Jersey industry. We recognize and appreciate the contribution they have made in our state and will encourage the continued enthusiasm of these long-standing industries in New Jersey's future.

And we realize the interdependency of one industry on another. Development also requires us to satisfy needs such as adequate housing, transportation, education and food supplies. We know there are not easy answers to the complex problems a new Democratic administration will face. Democrats have proven time and again their ability as leaders.

New Jersey business is better for those ideas and leadership. Democrats have reformed business taxation. Business taxes in New Jersey are lower than New York or Pennsylvania. The Democratic tax reform program repealed several regressive business taxes, including the tax on unincorporated businesses, the retail gross receipts tax, and the sales tax on business machinery and equipment. Together, these repealed taxes have saved New Jersey businesses over \$350 million.

Since businesses pay about one-third of all property taxes in this state, the property tax relief program has been an enormous benefit to business. The

program has returned over \$5.6 billion to local governments and school districts, funds which otherwise would have been raised through local real estate taxes, including those paid by business. In the first year alone, almost \$30 million in property tax reductions benefitted the business community.

Democrats have been good for business and, as a result, permanent jobs have been created.

For the balance of the decade, Democrats are prepared to provide the kind of economic leadership to further New Jersey's prosperity. Unlike our Republican opponents, Democrats are proposing a comprehensive program for job creation and business development. This program includes regional and urban development initiatives, and improved governmental support services. Democrats do not believe that jobs are created, businesses attracted and the economy improved through simplistic, sweeping programs that fail to use a whole range of available approaches to complex economic problems. The Republican program of business tax cuts is not a real alternative. This giveaway program would provide a windfall profit to many major multi-national corporations--60% of the Republican tax cut benefits these corporations. Democrats, on the other hand, recognize that small and new businesses produce 80% of all new private sector jobs. Democrats also know that small business men and women live in New Jersey, work in New Jersey, and make their business decisions in New Jersey. Democrats want to help these businesses grow and prosper. Because if they do, in return, it is these businesses which will do a job for New Jersey.

On the foundation of Democratic programs which provided local property tax relief, established caps on government spending, created thousands of permanent new jobs in the private sector, and restored a

5.

triple A bond rating to the State, new Democratic initiatives can keep New Jersey highly competitive in attracting new investment and creating new jobs.

We can stimulate development on a regional basis or in urban areas by:

- creating urban enterprise zones to utilize a coordinated effort to provide tax, job and capital incentives to attract clusters of manufacturing, research and development industries to targeted geographic areas;
- adopting an urban economic development bond issue, so that start-up funds are available to make needed infrastructure improvements to attract new manufacturing and commercial enterprises;
- developing a port improvement strategy that will combine private sector dollars with government resources to expand and improve New Jersey's Delaware and Hudson River port facilities to attract investment by new domestic and international companies;
- planning new marine fisheries and marine processing centers so that marine products harvested off New Jersey's coast can be processed and shipped by New Jersey industries.

Developing New Jersey's economy will also require the continued improvement of the infrastructure needed to serve it. Democratic programs will be developed to:

- Expand and tailor vocational-technical training curricula to jobs and job-markets so that high technology and manufacturing skills that will be needed will be available to new industries;
- Bring the high cost of energy under control and develop the energy mix that will meet New Jersey's energy needs at a reasonable cost and with the smallest threat to our environment;
- Stabilize transportation funding, so that highway and mass transportation systems can be maintained with no threat of major cuts brought about by sudden economic downturns;
- Establish a housing advocate so that the myriad of permits and regulations can be handled expeditiously.

6.

Democrats will design a tax relief program which combines sensible reforms with creative economic incentives. Among them will be measures to:

- Provide tax credits for hiring Viet Nam veterans, the handicapped, our youths and the disadvantaged as a way to stimulate employment in these groups plagued by chronic unemployment problems;
- Eliminate the net worth tax for certain categories of business, especially those small businesses which employ few people and are particularly hardhit by the burden of taxation;
- Provide relief for banking institutions which make loans available to new and small businesses needing the capital to expand their operations and create permanent new jobs.

Democrats have already recognized the value of strengthening state economic development efforts by enacting laws which created job-creating authorities and consolidated New Jersey's economic programs into a new Department of Commerce and Economic Development which will begin business in January of 1982.

Democrats will be on the cutting edge of new administrative reforms which will, using existing personnel:

- Establish an Office of Administrative Review with powers to eliminate duplication, clarify language and simplify rules and regulations adopted by state agencies;
- Create an effective advocate for small business so that problems particular to small business receive the exclusive attention of an appointed official, someone who is familiar with the unique problems of small businesses and who can expedite the process for these professionals;
- Work with local businessmen and women, local and county officials, and state programs at regional development centers which will provide job banks, inventory factories, assist with EDA loans and bring expert assistance to entrepreneurs interested in starting a new business or existing business in need of special assistance.

7.

Democrats are, as we have always been, committed to a goal of full-employment for all capable citizens of our state. We will continue through customized training programs, vocational and technological skills development, work-search verification and similar programs to guarantee that the needs of New Jersey citizens are satisfied and that our able-bodied workers are employed. We pledge to work toward a better cooperation between the needs of education and industry, training people for jobs that exist and coordinating available needs and skills.

8.

#### TAXES AND GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Democrats controlled state and local spending long before Proposition 13, or the current tax and budget cutting furor in Washington. The Democratic program of tax reform -- coupled with the budget caps and innovative management of government --- has been a responsible answer to the public's demand for an end to uncontrollable government spending and escalating property taxes. Democrats are committed to long term property tax reform. We acted on that commitment by constitutionally dedicating the entire proceeds of the income tax for only that purpose.

When Democrats took office eight years ago, property taxes were increasing at an alarming rate of 10% a year. With the imposition of the caps on county, municipal and school district spending in 1976, property taxes actually dropped by over 2.6% in the first year. The growth in property taxes between 1977 and 1980 was only 3.2% -- a remarkable feat given double-digit inflation.

Democrats made sure the individual homeowners further benefitted from tax reform. The Homestead Rebates provide direct property tax relief --- \$925 million between 1977 and 1980. Because property taxes have stabilized, and individual homeowners have received these rebates, homeowners statewide paid \$241 million less last year in property taxes than they paid in 1976. When Democrats promise tax relief, they reduce property taxes.

Increased county and municipal spending has also been held to much less than the rate of inflation by the Democrats' caps. During the last Republican Administration, municipal budgets were growing at 8.7% a year. Under Democrats that rate of growth has been reduced to 5.1%.

The state revenue sharing program has returned \$275 million to municipalities since 1977. The state has assumed the cost of the special senior citizen's property tax rebate, thus further reducing municipal spending by over \$267 million during the last 5 years. Aid to schools in the 1981-82 school year will be \$1 billion higher than local school districts received in 1976-77 --- an increase of 100%. At the same time, state-wide property taxes for school purposes have increased at much less than the rate of inflation.

9.

Through the prudent management of the state tax dollars and the institution of open, competitive bidding for government contracts, Democrats have fostered cost efficient state government. For example, the creation of a Capital Budgeting and Planning Commission has brought careful planning to state capital construction projects.

This record of government cost containment and effective management demonstrates that Democrats have the experience to run efficient government.

Over the next few years, state government faces a serious challenge posed by the federal budget reductions. The national Republican tax and budget program will cost state and local governments over \$700 million this year, and there will be even more cuts in following years. Because Democrats have run a frugal government, Democrats will meet this challenge. But it will not be easy. Our basic educational, transportation and social structures will be adversely affected --- but Democrats are committed to implement the cuts in a way that protects the most needed services.

Democrats believe state government has a job to do --- a role to play in providing services to people and business. Transportation, education, crime prevention and a clean environment are basic responsibilities government must assume. Given the serious impact of the national Republican administration's budget policy, the New Jersey Republican party's economic program would severely restrict state government's ability to fulfill its role.

The State Republican Party is proposing a \$400 million tax cut give away in the first year of the program, with a \$1 billion impact over three years. They propose to give these tax breaks to business regardless of whether or not any new jobs are involved. This plan could seriously undermine New Jersey's healthy fiscal environment. The state budget, will have to be cut severely. The ability to improve transportation, maintain our higher education system and fight crime will be significantly diminished. The impact on local government --- already the most adversely affected by the federal budget cuts --- could bring a return to the era of 10% property tax increases.

10.

School aid, revenue sharing and senior citizen rebates, and homestead rebates add up to over \$5.6 billion to stabilize the local tax burden.

Democrats have not rested on the success of these initiatives, but have recently added two new forms of property tax assistance. Across the state, counties which have high welfare costs will receive for the first time this year \$15.3 million to reduce their taxpayers' burden. Through the responsible redistribution of tax sources, Democrats replaced the loss of federal aid to municipalities by creating the Municipal Purposes Tax Assistance Fund. In 1981, over 300 municipalities will share in \$30 million of new state aid payments.

The Democratic party in 1981 recommitts itself to the goal of holding down property taxes and local government spending. Given the transfer of the burden by the federal government throughout the state, this task will require the kind of imaginative leadership Democrats have provided in the past. The party will extend the county and municipal caps past the 1982 expiration date, but we will not rule out modifications to this proven program that will not effect services to which our citizens are entitled. Innovative cost saving techniques, such as self-insurance programs, insurance pooling and group purchasing will help make local government more cost efficient. The state must use its high bond rating to assist municipalities reduce interest charges when they borrow. These are just examples of the kind forwardlooking leadership will bring to government cost containment.

While the accomplishment of Democratic programs on the local level have been overwhelmingly successful, Democrats have also succeeded in keeping down the cost of state government without disrupting vital state services. During the previous Republican administration, general fund appropriations increased by an average of 15.6% per year. Since Democrats clamped a cap on such spending, the growth has been reduced by more than half to 7% per year. This dramatic containment of state spending is a remarkable accomplishment in a period of double digit inflation which has made government and household budgets difficult to maintain.

11.

The Republican program is a simplistic approach that ignores New Jersey's constitutional requirement to have a balanced budget--a requirement the federal government does not have. The federal government would seek to achieve a balanced budget by shifting their responsibilities to the states.

Democrats have specific plans to streamline state government, to create more cost effective delivery systems for vital services, and to live within our means. An Office of Budget and Administrative Review will be created from existing personnel to oversee this process. This office will recommend policy actions necessary for a careful and prudent use of existing resources. We will move quickly to determine whether departments and divisions of government can be consolidated or reorganized. The Office of Budget and Administrative Review or a similar component of the Governor's Office will contain an administrative review section to carefully monitor governmental regulation. In California, this kind of review system reduced the number of new regulations by 31% in just the first two months of its existence.

A debt collection system, now pending before the Legislature, will stop payment of state tax refunds, Homestead Rebates or other state payments to individuals who owe the state money.

These and other plans are just part of the Democratic program to adjust to the new federal/state relationship. This Democratic approach -- as contrasted with the Republican party -- is a realistic solution to making government do more with less.

To successfully make government work, however, the Democratic party has long supported the need to involve people in the processes of government. Open government is not easy government -- it shows for all to see any mistakes or missteps. But Democrats believe the public's participation in government is critical to its success.

Democrats are responsible for the Open Public Meetings Act -- the Sunshine Law -- which requires public bodies to notify the public of the time, place and subject of their meetings, and to make all decisions in public.

12.

Creation of strong ethics codes and required financial disclosure by the executive and legislative branches have furthered efforts to restore peoples confidence in government. Today, 275 officials of the executive branch and all legislators must disclose the sources of their income, including any investment earnings. This past year, Democrats extended these requirements to legislative and gubernatorial candidates. Democrats believe that public officials should be held to high standards of conduct, and enacted laws increasing penalties for public officials who participate in corrupt activities or those who encourage them to do so.

Democrats have opened up the electoral process. The postcard registration system has made registering to vote easier. Democrats reformed the process of filing absentee ballots to end abuses of this system.

Finally, Democrats have brought public financing to the gubernatorial primary and general elections. Financed from the taxpayer's voluntary check-off on the income tax form, public financing has stopped the "buying" of elections by wealthy special interest groups.

Democrats have long felt that anyone, regardless of wealth, should be able to run for political office -- that all citizens should participate in the electoral process. Through open government, voter registration, and election reform, Democrats have made government accessible to the people.

13.

A MODERN AND EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Democrats have long recognized that the operation of a well coordinated air, water, rail and highway transportation system is essential to maintaining the economic vitality of New Jersey. Democrats will utilize Bond issue dollars for the purchase of 1600 buses, the improvement of 34 rail stations, the purchase of 250 new railroad coaches, 53 used coaches, 32 new locomotives, rehabilitation of bridges over the Navesink, Manasquan and Raritan Rivers and improvements on railroad grade crossings.

In addition, the passage of a 1979 transportation bond issue will help modernize rail equipment, restore rail stations, improve highway intersections, improve bridges, and widen and resurface roadways.

Through a joint agreement between New Jersey, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the state creatively utilized Port Authority money to qualify for \$600 million in federal funds for capital improvements for the mass transportation network in New Jersey.

New Jersey's bus subsidy dollars were put to better use by the assumption of control of marginally profitable bus companies. Expert planning and management will streamline and improve their operations.

Democrats realized the value in developing regional transportation centers and their key role in New Jersey's economic future.

Newark International Airport, is attracting freight and passenger dollars that might have gone to other airports in the region, such as New York's LaGuardia Airport or the Philadelphia International Airport.

Camden Transportation Center, a rapid transit transfer and terminal facility will consolidate bus, auto and mass transit rail facilities in the center of Camden City.

The Newark, Elizabeth, and Camden port facilities, are already among the most modern deep-water shipping facilities in the nation.

14.

If we are to successfully continue the positive trend of economic development in each of New Jersey's sub-economies (tourism, recreation, manufacturing, agriculture, and commercial), Democrats realize that new concepts in transportation funding and design must be pursued. Innovative, cost efficient approaches are a key to New Jersey's future as the hub of transportation in the northeast. By establishing a stable funding source for highways and mass transportation systems, sudden economic downturns will not affect the maintenance of our transportation infrastructure.

Democrats can show leadership by promoting van-pooling and ride-sharing programs for occupational commuting purposes. Rail and bus commuters will be protected by providing them with representation by the Public Advocate in schedule, route and fare hearings before the New Jersey Transit Authority. An ombudsman to monitor transit service and recommend improvements will be established to assure commuters that they are getting the quality of service they deserve.

We will encourage use of park-and-ride facilities at bus and rail centers and recommend such facilities be provided in other high-demand locations.

15.

EDUCATION

The educational system in New Jersey is crucial to the development of a skilled workforce and informed citizenry, and Democrats have demonstrated an unprecedented commitment to education.

In the last eight years Democrats have provided twice as much state aid to education as had been appropriated in the entire previous history of the state government.

In the years before Democrats took office, the state each year was providing approximately 30% of the money spent on public primary and secondary education in New Jersey. It is now providing 40%.

In providing this money Democrats have, at the same time, made sure that the educational system in New Jersey has been made accountable to the public. Pupils are now tested in basic skills, and will soon be required to pass an examination to graduate from high school. All school districts now set educational goals and measure their progress toward those goals, and all must now present their budgets in a form which permits more public scrutiny. This kind of accountability is new to public education in New Jersey; it is a recent, Democratic accomplishment.

The level of services to private schools has also been greatly expanded. For the first time, the state is providing funds to diagnose handicaps among private school children, to provide speech therapy and to make remedial classes available in the basic skills. In addition, the amount of state aid to private schools has increased by over 300% during the last eight years.

This record is in sharp contrast to recent federal actions to reduce education aid to New Jersey by more than \$53 million dollars, including aid to vocational schools and funding for school lunch programs. At a time when this state, and every state, should be taking new initiatives in education, this failure in the federal commitment to children shows a true lack of concern for the future.

Nevertheless, Democrats pledge to continue taking new initiative here in New Jersey. It is time to begin phasing in a full program of educational services to pre-school children who are, or may be, handicapped. This program will help guarantee that more of our children lead more productive lives. In the long run, it also will result in cost-savings by reducing the need for services to children who will not need as much help when they are older because they have received more effective help when they were younger.

It is time as well to more fully focus our vocational education programs on providing the graduates who can succeed in the high technology jobs or industries which will be so important to New Jersey in the future, and to expand our programs for the gifted and talented children who are a most valuable resource for all of us. We are committed to ensuring that every New Jersey youngster is be employable on graduation from our high schools.

Along with new initiatives, the education system in New Jersey must institute cost-saving measures. Democrats will help by providing the framework necessary for qualified school districts to begin programs of self-insurance or to join with other districts in insurance pools, so that rising costs in this area can be reduced. Similarly, Democrats will make sure that districts receive even more assistance to computerize their bus schedules and routes, and thereby reduce transportation costs without reducing services.

Democrats are sympathetic to the need for a reduction in rules and regulations in our educational system. But these cannot be sweeping; rather, it must be a targeted and sophisticated review that eliminates overregulation and administrative tasks while at the same time retaining and improving the quality of programs.

The library system in New Jersey is a valuable resource to every community. Libraries have a long tradition of providing accurate information and intellectual stimulation to all. Cooperative programs encourage one system to develop unique resources to complement another. The County and Municipal Government Study Commission recommends resource sharing and increased public access to libraries in a recently published report. Cooperative efforts and shared services will continue to allow for new technologies to be implemented and ensure that in a cost-conscious economy, all library materials will get maximum use.

HIGHER EDUCATION

A well educated workforce is key to New Jersey attracting new, high technology industries. Democrats believe a quality higher education system, offering a wide variety of vocational and academic disciplines, is crucial to this effort. Today, New Jersey's public and private colleges educate our students for the jobs of tomorrow.

Democrats have made sure all New Jersey students have the opportunity to secure further education after high school. 17 county colleges now educate over 100,000 students. These colleges offer career oriented education programs to young and old alike. The state colleges have been transformed from teacher-education institutions to multi-purpose colleges offering programs in business, computers, and the sciences. The College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (CMDNJ) has grown into a modern medical education institution with branches in Newark, New Brunswick and Camden. Rutgers University continues to offer its students the advantages of a big university education close to home. Finally, through State Aid to Private Colleges and Universities, Democrats have helped preserve our independent colleges and make them more affordable. This diverse system, brought about by Democratic leadership is a valuable resource for New Jersey.

Democrats created the Tuition Aid Grant Program (TAG) to help low and middle income students afford a college education, regardless of the family's income or the college selected. This year, over 60,000 students will receive help to meet their college costs. Democrats, as the record shows, give more than lip-service to our youths and their families.

The Republican administration's budget cuts will limit loans to students --- particularly middle income students. The reductions in the federal loan program will result in \$100 million less in loans to New Jersey students after October 1 of this year. In response, Democrats have already begun action to reestablish a state loan program. Democrats will make sure that all students who wish to better their academic and vocational skills will be able to go to college, regardless of their financial means.

The future of our state depends on our ability to provide our citizens with the ability to continue their education and, ultimately, to contribute to improving our great state. We are sensitive to our students and will not, as the federal government has, turn our backs on them.

ENERGY

The energy shortages and price increases of the last decade clearly demonstrated the need for a comprehensive and consistent state energy policy. Democratic leadership in Trenton enabled the state to survive national shortages of oil and natural gas. The Democratic Party will continue to lead in formulating energy policies based upon the fact that containing energy costs is an essential element in maintaining the vitality of the state's economy, and are of concern to every consumer and homeowner in the state.

With the exception of the potential for converting garbage and solid waste to energy, New Jersey has no energy sources of its own--no oil, no coal and no natural gas. New Jersey must look to alternatives--energy efficiency and conservation, solar energy and cogeneration--which can be developed economically. Unfortunately, the Republican Administration in Washington is withdrawing support for those very energy alternatives which have the potential for the greatest development in the State. While New Jersey Democrats in Congress fight to restore federal support, Democrats in Trenton will assume greater responsibility for the promotion of energy efficiency and alternative energy sources.

Energy efficiency and conservation should be viewed not simply as a means of saving energy, but also as a means of creating new sources of energy. In fact, on a unit-for-unit basis, creating new energy supplies through more efficient use of energy is cheaper and faster, less damaging to the environment and creates more jobs than developing new supplies of energy through increased production of coal, oil or natural gas.

The evidence that state government can effectively promote energy efficiency is clear. In 1980, efficiency and conservation programs sponsored by the state saved the equivalent of 500 million gallons of fuel oil, which, at current prices, amounts to nearly \$625 million. That represents a savings of \$130 in energy costs for every \$1 spent on conservation and efficiency programs. A recent study by Rutgers University predicts that approximately 65,000 jobs can be created through investment in conservation programs and renewable sources of energy.

Democrats are, therefore, committed to policies which will increase energy efficiency and reduce our dependence on coal, oil and natural gas. Public investment in highways, sewers, housing and other facilities must be assessed in terms of impact on energy consumption and land-use patterns. Recently enacted amendments to the Municipal Land Use Law are significant in that they incorporate energy efficiency measures in municipal master plans.

Democrats are proud that we have been able to commit resources to a weatherization program through which energy-saving insulation and storm windows have been installed in the homes of many who were otherwise unable to afford such improvements. Democrats pledge to continue this program with assistance from our vocational schools and from community service programs such as workfare.

Cogeneration, a system which produces thermal energy and electricity in tandem, holds great potential as an energy source in New Jersey. A system which produces only thermal energy for industrial processes can waste about one-fourth of its energy input, while a typical electrical power plant discharges up to two-thirds of its energy input as waste. A cogeneration system can substantially reduce this waste, by using the waste component of one system as the energy source of the other.

Truly significant for New Jersey is the potential for generating electricity in conjunction with the incineration of garbage and solid waste. Democrats will lead in implementing an overall government strategy for cogeneration, by helping establish fair rate policies and incentives for the development of cogeneration systems. Democrats will also explore incentives to accomplish cogeneration goals.

The Democratic Party promises to scrutinize the proposals of utilities for new generating stations and other facilities. This program of needs assessment, together with the work of the Division of Rate Counsel in the Office of the Public Advocate, will ensure that New Jersey controls its public utilities--not the other way around.

In addition, Democrats will provide the necessary state supervision on the necessary national vigilance to ensure the safe operation of existing nuclear power plants

which are under construction and deemed necessary for future needs. Our State is too small and densely populated to permit a casual attitude toward the development of nuclear power. In addition, Democrats support the moratorium on the mining of uranium ore in New Jersey.

Taxes comprise approximately 13% of our utility bills. As those bills rise, so do the taxes, but it is a tax policy set by OPEC, not by Trenton. Democrats pledge to review the structure and assessment of those taxes and find a way to hold down the rate of increase.

It is clear that energy plays a vital role in the potential for economic development in New Jersey. While we can't move New Jersey to the Sunbelt, Democrats do pledge to see that the State's energy supplies are used wisely and efficiently.

ENVIRONMENT

The Democratic Party has consistently shown the foresight and concern for the public interest to act to save our environment and to clean our air and water. As the most densely populated State in the nation and as the tenth smallest in size, New Jersey cannot avoid the interaction of human activity with the natural environment. New Jersey Democrats have recognized this since the first anti-pollution laws enacted by Governor Hughes and a Democratic Legislature.

Democrats are deeply concerned about the destructive course being pursued by Republicans in power in Washington. Anti-environmental policies cost the public far more in damaged health than their new proponents will realize in political gain. Democrats have long understood this basic reality and been active in preserving the environment. As a result the Democratic Party has compiled an outstanding record in improving environmental quality in New Jersey.

A Democratic Congress and President enacted a framework for protection of the Pinelands, and a Democratic Legislature and Governor have enacted the strong Pinelands Protection Act to ensure the preservation of one of the nation's most environmentally sensitive areas and the state's most unique natural area. The Commission must be responsive to the legitimate concerns of affected citizens and this process must include a maximum opportunity for cooperative local involvement.

Democrats recognize the environmental and economic need to develop safe methods for disposal of hazardous waste. We have acted -- acted to tighten regulation of landfills; to develop an interstate manifest system to track the shipment and disposal of toxic wastes; to create a federal/state strike force to prosecute illegal dumpers; to expand the Spill Compensation and Control act to permit the clean up of abandoned hazardous waste sites; and to develop legislation for the siting of environmentally safe disposal and treatment facilities.

With the knowledge that New Jersey could no longer rely on landfills as the primary means of solid waste disposal, the Democratic Party enacted and is now successfully implementing the Solid Waste Management Act--with the adoption of approval plans for 18 of the State's 21 counties and the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission, and the consolidation of the waste stream, an indispensable prerequisite to the development of a resource recovery program.

Over Republican objections, Democrats proposed and the voters approved the Natural Resources Bond Act, which provides \$50-million for the development of resource recovery plants.

Enactment of legislation to ensure the proper monitoring and closure of landfills and to reduce reliance on landfills through development of recycling programs will lay the groundwork for further progress in the area of solid waste management.

Democrats have made dramatic progress in improving water quality through utilization of Federal and State funds for sewer construction projects and the enactment of the Water Pollution Control Act, the Water Quality Planning Act, the Safe Water Drinking Act and the Spill Compensation and Control Act.

Enactment of the Pinelands Protection Act will safeguard the Cohansey Aquifer, the principal source of water for South Jersey's citizens and agricultural industry. Construction of the Round Valley outlet pipeline enabled us to avoid disaster in the Northeastern region of our State during the recent drought emergency. The Water Supply Bond Act, and legislation to establish for the comprehensive management of water supplies and water supply facilities, will provide the framework for continued progress in safeguarding New Jersey's most critical resource.

Our success in improving water quality is matched by similar progress in air pollution control. Under Democratic leadership, New Jersey has succeeded in bringing 99% of the major potential sources of air pollution into compliance with air quality standards. Recognizing the economic impact of compliance, we provided tax incentives and low interest loans for air pollution control devices.

23.

The Democratic Party is committed to developing a viable resource recovery industry. Such an industry will not only reduce the need for landfilling but will result in significant job creation and a relatively cheap source of energy.

The Democratic Party will develop a high quality of management and surveillance of remaining landfills for non-processable materials through a resident inspector program at major facilities.

The Democratic Party is committed to the implementation, with full public participation, of a sound Water Supply Master Plan.

The Democratic Party is committed to the rehabilitation of our municipal water systems (through which we lose millions of gallons of treated water) and to development of a practical water conservation program---all as the cornerstone of our commitment to solve the State's long range water supply problems.

The Democratic Party views the completion of the wastewater treatment plants for the Passaic River Basin, and Hudson and Camden counties as essential to maintenance of water quality in those regions. Their completion has been jeopardized by the cutback by the Reagan Administration in New Jersey's sewer grant program. We are committed to obtaining federal funds or developing state capital to complete the most needed projects in a manner which protects our economic and environmental interests.

The protection of our watershed areas is an important element in ensuring the preservation of our water resources. To that end we support an amendment to the Municipal Land Use Law to provide that municipal master plans address this need.

Extension of the Federal Clean Air Act, including national and regional standards, is vital to the environmental and economic well being of New Jersey. New Jersey Democrats will fight for its reenactment by the Congress.

We are committed to continuation of the State auto emissions program, and the expansion of van pooling and mass transit as additional methods of reducing vehicular air pollution.

24.

We have implemented the nation's first auto emissions control program--which the last Republican administration had deferred and delayed--and established an Air Pollution Emergency Response Team to deal with air pollution emergencies caused by weather conditions or industrial accidents. We have successfully fought for the adoption of regional and national standards in the Federal Clean Air Act.

Under Democratic leadership, environmental protection policy has resulted in the expansion of parkland, including the opening of Liberty State Park; increased protection of our beaches and harbors; development of a coastal zone management plan; enhancement of New Jersey's commercial and recreational fishing industries; and the return and reintroduction of a variety of fish and wildlife to New Jersey's air, lands and water.

In the next four years, the Democratic Party will build on these accomplishments.

In contrast to the opposition, New Jersey Democrats will not permit the Republican national administration's contempt for environmental quality to retard our progress. We will clean up abandoned dump sites like Chemical Control in Elizabeth. We will continue to press for funding of the Superfund legislation. And, we will seek voter approval of the \$100-million hazardous waste bond referendum on the November ballot.

Under Democratic leadership, New Jersey has prepared itself to assume its responsibility under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act for hazardous waste management and enforcement. The Republican Administration's failure to implement the act's delegation provisions--curiously inconsistent with the philosophy of "new federalism"--has resulted in waste and inefficiency in both the public and private sector. We will press for action by the Federal Government in this area.

Democrats know that an infrastructure of proper waste management facilities is necessary to both the environmental and economic health of New Jersey. The Democratic Party is committed to full implementation of the Major Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act with complete adherence to its public participation provisions.

The Democratic Party will seek creation of a Hazardous Waste/Health Care Task Force to monitor potential health risks which may result from hazardous waste discharges.

25.

We support amendment of State air pollution control regulations to include specific heavy metals.

We are committed to developing economic incentives to promote the residential and commercial use of solar energy as a means of reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

Democrats recognize the need to preserve New Jersey's farmland. To that end, we will work for voter approval of the \$50-million Farmland Retention and Development Bond Act. In addition we are committed to implementation of the recommendations contained in the Grassroots Report.

26.

#### AGRICULTURE

Democrats recognize the need to preserve New Jersey's farmland. To that end we acted on a \$50 million Farmland Retention and Development Bond Act and will work for voter approval.

We can point to aggressive programs we developed to preserve farmland and open space.

At a time when problems throughout the nation heighten our awareness of New Jersey's tremendous agricultural resources, Democrats will continue to study ways to give farmers added incentives. Possibilities for special farmland zoning techniques will be examined as part of our effort to encourage preservation of agricultural land.

New Jersey farmers have a key role in further development of the food industry in our state. In strengthening our economy, agriculture is an established field which can work to the advantage of our state.

Available export commodities can inject a renewed pride in the stability of our economy, and promotion of these products will further enhance New Jersey's attractiveness.

Democrats are committed to implementation of the recommendations of the Grassroots Report calling for farmland preservation. We are proud to be associated with the revitalization and interest in our agricultural industry.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

27.

Democrats as a Party have a history of caring for those who are poor, sick or disabled. We are the party of hope for those who have none. We believe society has a responsibility to help those honestly in need and to provide temporary support to those people who need the help to help themselves. The public, we believe, shares this philosophy.

Democrats recognize the need to deliver social and health services efficiently and to eliminate fraud. We must be sure the beneficiaries of a program are those who need the service - not the administrators. Our welfare programs must help the recipient get back to work. Health programs should be community based and preventative -- to avoid the cost expensive hospital stays. The public wants a government to provide these services, but at a price they can afford. Democrats have and will meet this challenge - to do more with less.

The Republican Party's interpretation of the public will is to simply cut, reduce and eliminate. Their block grants are being sold as a great opportunity for state and local governments to make decisions. If 10 programs costing \$10 each are lumped together -- if they are funded at \$75 instead of \$100 --that's not opportunity, that's hardship. Block Grants are a front -- a cover-up -- for an administration that does not want to make the hard decisions. It wants someone else to do the dirty work -- to decide who gets hurt.

They would reduce day care centers for working mothers trying to get off welfare. They would reduce community based alcohol treatment centers forcing alcoholics into hospitals at three times the cost.

The first year cuts fall most heavily on social and health services, medicaid, Title XX, and alcohol and drug centers. Their program does not evaluate services, does not target resources -- they just cut them.

Democrats in New Jersey have and will meet this challenge of operating basic social services in the face of federal reductions. It will not be easy, but with careful planning and cost efficient management it can be done. Democrats have, and will govern with their hearts--as well as their heads.

28.

Democrats have consistently seen the need and indeed the equity in providing adequate medical care to all our citizens. We have worked tirelessly to ensure all citizens access to the highest possible quality of medical care.

When elderly citizens were unable to afford both the expense of day-to-day living and the medication needed to guarantee health, New Jersey Democrats enacted the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged program, providing life-sustaining medication at a nominal fee.

As the costs of health maintenance continue to rise, New Jersey residents can take advantage of Prescription Drug Substitution, which allows pharmacists to substitute less expensive, therapeutically equivalent drugs if a patient agrees. It has saved consumers \$15 million in its first four years.

By establishment of Health Maintenance Organizations, people are guaranteed high quality health care at low costs. As Democrats, we can be proud of the role we played in promoting these systems.

Hospital cost containment allows New Jersey to boast of cost increases well below the national rate. A new system of payment recommended by the Hospital Rate Setting Commission and instituted by Democrats has resulted in savings at the twenty-six participating hospitals of over \$10 million to patients.

To ensure quality medical treatment in all areas of the state, Democrats developed a plan to permit graduates of New Jersey medical schools to work off part of their loans by treating patients in underserved areas.

Democrats have had the foresight to recognize the benefit of healthy citizens and the ultimate effect ill health has on productivity in our state. With alcohol and drug abuse ranking as the major public health problem in the nation today, New Jersey Democrats saw the need for establishing and supporting the Division of Alcohol, Narcotic and Drug Abuse Control. Given the impact of the proposed federal cuts, Democrats will work to ensure continued support for these centers.

Democrats have always taken a human approach to health problems and particularly the problem of alcoholism. They recognized it as a disease and reacted by creating a specialized Division of Alcoholism to meet the health problems which result from this

the health problems which result from this addiction. When Democrats speak about all the effects of an alcoholic person on society, we are aware that he or she will have an effect on the lives of four other people; that the economy will suffer from poor job performance; and that health will generally suffer. This party sees the needs of people and addresses the needs. Republicans ignored the problem.

Democrats can and do take credit for the establishment of Community Mental Health Centers. Community based care has proven to be successful and cost-effective. Democrats have been and will continue to be sensitive to the mandate that people have a right to quality service and treatment.

We see the close relationship between physical and mental health, between self-satisfaction and the quality of job performance. We will remember that community-based care has proved to be both humane and cost-effective. Maintaining and further developing the mental health system is mandatory. Democrats pledge not only to support the community health centers but to promote a philosophy of mental health as a factor in complete health care.

The Democratic Party has a proven history of commitment to providing social services to the truly needy in our communities.

The issue of financing human services in the 1980's is one of the most difficult areas facing New Jersey today. The significant budget cuts from the federal government will have a dramatic impact on these services.

In New Jersey Democrats are responsible for providing over 300 services to our senior citizens. These programs include prescription drugs at nominal prices, counseling, educational services, meals on wheels, and a utility credit program.

Legislation has been enacted to provide for the citizen review of the placement of all New Jersey children who have been put in foster care and residential care by state agencies in order to provide for treatment plan reviews and to reunite families as soon as possible.

To streamline government programs and cut out the waste, Democrats enacted legislation to eliminate health insurance abuse and fraud.

A cooperative state and federal program to upgrade education and facilities for the mentally retarded was realized under Democratic leadership.

We have successfully redistributed a segment of the institutionalized population by placing those less severely retarded citizens in community-based facilities.

This year the state will complete improvements of facilities and educational programs, meeting national standards that will qualify New Jersey for reimbursement of significant expenditures. This points to yet another example of Democrats using state dollars to attract federal and private funds.

We can point to the full education programs which have been established for children in state facilities as a statement by Democrats of our commitment demonstrating that all our citizens deserve the opportunity to receive the training necessary to become productive members of society.

Similarly, Democrats have developed educational and day training programs for the severely retarded. With proper attention and training, the retarded are now contributing to New Jersey's economy and to their own well-being.

Democrats will act to add the disabled to the pharmaceutical assistance program.

Under our leadership the developmentally disabled gained significantly from the Public Advocate's acting on their behalf. Through these efforts, no longer are the disabled denied jobs, fair pay or fair housing.

We saw the need for an advocate, too, for the needs of the elderly - and filled that need. The Office of the Ombudsman for the Institutionalized Elderly provides safeguards from abuse for those who are least able to help themselves, those in boarding homes and group-care facilities.

Democrats established a workfare program to employ in service to the community those citizens who cannot find employment and must seek aid from their communities. Such critical programs as Aid to Families of Dependent Children protecting the needs of our young; Women, Infants and Children guaranteeing the nutrition which translates into good health; and school lunch programs are critical to the well-being of poor children. Democrats see these programs as part of our commitment to one another.

Should the voters provide the necessary approval, a catastrophic illness program could be enacted. This could guarantee health care programs for the people who cannot afford or do not qualify for insurance coverage.

Democrats pledge to develop home-health care as an option to traditional hospital or nursing home care. Private health services have realized that treating people in their homes has both financial and psychological advantages. New Jersey Democrats pledge - to undertake that same cost-efficient method of treatment for residents in need of services which can be addressed in the home or community environment. Many of our elderly are often placed in nursing homes, not because they need this level of service, but because it is the only place they can get long-term care.

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in New Jersey. Recent reports by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health highlight the significance of cancer to life in New Jersey.

In an attempt to establish a statewide plan to attack cancer, New Jersey Democrats will induce research concerns to locate in the state and encourage cooperation between the public and private sectors in fighting this dread disease. The College of Medicine and Dentistry has already begun research in this area. We will encourage the public and private sectors to work together to develop effective biomedical research and treatment facilities to meet the needs of New Jersey residents.

Demonstrating caring and compassion by Democrats, during the coming years there will be an effort to promote hospice programs in New Jersey where a person can learn to understand death and share it with his family.

We support the use of the state's bonding authority to provide money for the improvement of the boarding homes in our state. Upgrading these facilities with smoke and fire alarm systems and other life safety improvements will save the lives of boarding home residents.

Reinforcing our assurance to provide cost efficient, quality service, Democrats will seek to have the Departments of Labor and Industry and Human Services coordinate their training and employment programs, particularly for the disabled.

The service delivery system we instituted has proven successful in community-oriented treatment. As the new era imposed by Washington dawns and our programs are pitted against one another by an insensitive administration that is being applauded by the Republicans here in New Jersey, Democrats see the need for developing comprehensive service centers for the delivery of services to the needy.

We also see the need and value in having our programs operate more efficiently, of not throwing money at problems as an answer -- we have not forgotten that the people we want to help are our grandparents, relatives, friends and neighbors.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, JUVENILE JUSTICE, CORRECTIONS AND THE COURTS

The Democratic Party believes the war against crime begins with the habitual offender and those people who are responsible for violent crimes. The criminal justice system should have no sympathy for these repeat offenders. They should be quickly taken off the streets and kept off the streets. New Jersey's future criminal justice system--the police, prosecutors and courts--should make these criminals the number one priority.

During the past eight years, the Democratic Party made a commitment to, and provided the leadership for, a strengthening of our criminal justice system. Foremost among the accomplishments is the enactment of a new criminal code which has resulted in the incarceration of greater numbers of repeat offenders. Prior to the enactment of the new code, the incarceration rate was 40%, today it is over 60%. Mandatory sentences for violent crimes assure that gun-wielding criminals are taken off the streets, and the criminal code also imposes stiffer sentences on those repeat offenders who commit the great percentage of robberies and burglaries. Career criminals should spend their careers in prison.

Sentencing under the criminal code affects only the adult criminal, however, and the Democratic Party is committed, therefore, to the enactment of legislation now pending which will make the juvenile justice system more responsive to the needs of society, the victim and the police as well as the juvenile offender. The legislation will revamp the criminal justice and social service components of the juvenile justice system to provide the courts with the best possible sentencing alternatives--incarceration when appropriate, but also restitution and community work programs for first-time offenders who are unlikely to come before a court again.

Juvenile reform begins at home, and, therefore, the Democrats advocate increased parental responsibility for acts of mindless vandalism by minors. The

Democratic Party also encourages the Legislature to review the recent report by the Attorney General which studied the problem of teenage drinking and the increase in traffic fatalities.

We have an obligation to continue to review the statistics reflecting the carnage on our highways and realize the number of families this effects. Democrats saw to the establishment of a Division of Alcoholism; Democrats set up coordinated programs involving alcohol education and treatment; Democrats will, as they have in the past, address the root cause of alcohol related disasters. Democrats have consistently supported stronger penalties for driving under the influence. Over the next two years we will examine solutions to the problems associated with drinking, such as uniform closing times for taverns and bars.

The party supports a regional approach among the States of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania to increase the drinking age.

Street crime is not the only target of the efforts of the Democratic Party. Democrats can rightfully be proud of legislation which strengthened the Electronic Surveillance Act and extended the term of the State Commission on Investigation, both of which have aided in the fight against organized and white collar crime. Most recently, Democrats in the Legislature passed the Racketeering Act which focuses on the efforts of organized crime to infiltrate legitimate businesses. Democrats also fully support the efforts of the State's Casino Control Commission and Division of Gaming Enforcement to keep organized crime out of Atlantic City.

Recent headlines have highlighted organized crime's involvement in the disposal of toxic wastes--particularly criminal involvement in illegal night-time dumping which poses a health and safety threat to all of us. Democrats created an inter-departmental task force to crack down on all illegal disposal of toxic wastes and pledge an ever-vigilant effort.

All the laws in the world will not make our citizens safe in their homes and on the street unless government can provide adequate police protection and sufficient prison space. Democrats support an increase in the cigarette tax which will be dedicated to funding more uniformed patrolmen in our cities--and in those cities which need them most.

Democrats supported a prison bond issue which will provide the money for the construction of a new medium-security prison in Camden, a facility which will relieve over-crowding in county jails. With regard to those in prison, we must realize that there will be little change in the crime rate so long as our prisons continue to return to society people whose only skills are those that put them behind bars in the first place. A sentence to prison must be a punishment, but we punish ourselves as well if we do not make an effort to rehabilitate those who are incarcerated.

Our criminal justice system quite naturally focuses on the criminal. This same system can and must, however, address the needs of victims and witnesses with greater sensitivity. The criminal code places a greater emphasis than ever before on restitution to the victim, and Democrats passed legislation last year which forces criminals to put money into the state's victim compensation fund. But we can and must do more. Democrats support the expansion of programs begun by some county prosecutors which facilitate the provision of medical, financial and social service assistance to victims.

Finally, the Democratic Party is committed to further improvements in our court system. Experts on crime and punishment agree on one thing—swift and sure punishment is the best deterrent of all. The unification of the court system which has reduced the cost of our courts to our counties, and the state-led effort for speedy trials are significant Democratic achievements. The Democratic Party is committed to programs which will reduce the time from arrest to trial. One such program is the development of Neighborhood Justice Centers which will relieve the pressure on our municipal courts. Neighborhood Justice Centers rely on local citizens to mediate minor, but time-consuming, neighborhood disputes.

Today, a jury of one's peers may too often be the ideal rather than the reality. Too many persons are excused outright, and the insufficient compensation for jurors often causes a hardship for those who do serve. The Democratic Party will support a proposal to enlarge the pool of potential jurors and increase their compensation.

In pursuing our goals, Democrats are mindful that no one law or administrative or judicial action taken alone will have an impact on crime. But the Democratic Party does believe that, if people throughout our State are willing to work together, we can make the criminal justice system work and our goals a reality.

37.

HOUSING

Democrats are committed to the construction of more affordable housing in New Jersey -- but the high interest policy of the Republican Party is the number one deterrent to new construction. Democrats will seek new approaches to make mortgage money available.

Over the last eight years, Democrats have done much to make rental and owner-occupied housing in New Jersey better in quality and easier to obtain. It was the Democratic Party which created a successful home rehabilitation loan program which made millions of dollars in low-interest loan funds available for basic improvements on existing homes.

Property insurance, rebate and homestead exemption programs have made the cost of maintaining a home lower and brought the spiraling cost of local taxation under control. Urban and suburban water supply and sewerage improvements have helped foster the construction of over 195,000 new housing units in New Jersey. Manufactured housing has become a viable housing alternative.

To ensure that when New Jerseyans invest in the purchase of a home the quality is guaranteed, a Democratic Legislature saw to the implementation of a Home Owner's Warranty Program. A builder is responsible for structural defects for 10 years, electrical and plumbing, heating and cooling for two years. The HOW program has received national recognition and acclaim.

Tenant protection measures have been enacted to maintain renter occupied housing as an available and affordable alternative. Eviction of tenants without cause is now prohibited. Security deposits are now placed in interest-bearing accounts. A tenant's security deposit must be transferred following the sale of an apartment building. All landlords must obtain federal crime insurance to protect their tenants. Renters now qualify for a \$65 state income tax credit. And tenants who are senior citizens can qualify for a lifeline credit to be applied to their utility bills.

If we are to meet the housing needs of a new decade, the Democratic Party recognizes that we must build upon this foundation. Our program will make financing more available and governmental action more supportive of the construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of housing units.

38.

The investment of state revenue dollars in banking institutions will provide home purchase and improvement financing at lower than conventional rates. The creation of a state housing advocate to walk through the regulatory process with developers, the development of a series of recommendations to simplify and streamline the regulatory process at all levels of government, these are options to expedite building.

Incentives for local governments will encourage mixed unit zoning for housing alternatives such as planned unit development, cluster-zoning, detached family housing, condominiums, and townhouses. Uniform application review procedures at the local level for housing construction, and help in stimulating rehabilitation improvements by permitting limited tax abatements by municipal ordinance can infuse new life into this vital industry.

Democrats will also take the lead in another creative way to generate mortgage money to invigorate the housing industry. New Jersey will look to a pilot program for public employee groups interested in providing the use of pension monies to finance mortgages. We hope it will be a productive experiment.

SENIOR CITIZENS

As our population grows older, the needs of our elderly citizens have become an ever more pressing cause for concern.

Their needs have been a historic concern of the Democratic Party, from the establishment of Social Security to the enactment of Medicare. And New Jersey Democrats have led the nation in crafting state programs to meet those needs.

At a time when Republicans in power are threatening these fundamental programs, New Jersey's Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to senior citizens.

From the start of the last decade our senior citizens have called attention to their growing inability to meet the spiralling costs of good health, of energy, and of taxes.

A Republican Administration and Legislature sat in Trenton. And did nothing. Democrats listened. And acted.

A Democratic Legislature and Governor have established the landmark program of Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged, which has improved the health and prolonged the lives of countless older citizens.

A Democratic Legislature and Governor have enacted the Lifeline Credit program to help pay the crushing costs of energy, so senior citizens could have heat in winter.

A Democratic Legislature and Governor have provided substantial property tax relief for the elderly, through homestead rebates, increased deductions and caps on local spending -- financed by an income tax from which nearly all pension income is exempt. In fact, pension exemptions from the income tax and exemptions from the inheritance tax show leadership by New Jersey Democrats which is admired nationally.

The Democratic Party is proud of these accomplishments, achieved even in an era of scarce resources. And it is proud too of its other achievements for senior citizens:

-- the Rooming and Boarding House Act to ensure decent care for our most vulnerable elderly.

-- establishment of casino gambling in Atlantic City with the proceeds dedicated to programs for the aging and disabled.

-- extension of the senior citizens' property tax deduction to many more seniors, and an increase in that deduction to \$200 this year and \$250 by 1983.

-- establishment of an Ombudsman for the Institutionalized Elderly.

-- utility relief for tenants

-- enactment of a "bill of rights" for nursing home patients.

-- a guarantee that older citizens will not be forced to leave their homes through condominium conversion, from paying an entrance fee at state parks, and from tuition charges at public colleges.

-- elevation of seniors' concerns to Division-level status in the Department of Community Affairs.

New Jersey's Democratic Party believes that the problems of the elderly will not be solved by making them work until 68 or by reducing their Social Security benefits. Our senior citizens have worked long enough to earn these years of peace. And while life cannot be made care-free, state government can help make it more comfortable.

To avoid the devastating effects of health care, New Jersey Democrats will support dedication of casino revenues to meet the critical needs of the elderly and disabled. And for this reason, as health care becomes so critical, Democrats support a constitutional amendment to allow senior citizens and the disabled to use casino funds for new and for expanded health services.

41.

The Democratic Party supports an increase in the income limit for Pharmaceutical Assistance after the voters make casino funds available. We support the program's extension to the disabled as well as a reasonable dispensing fee to the pharmacists providing the service.

Democrats also recognize an obligation to consider the ravages of inflation and to consider the impact of this devastating reality on senior citizens. We are committed to a continued attention to the needs of our older citizens and to answer with creative innovative and cost-effective solutions the disastrous effects of the cost of living on those with fixed incomes.

As a demonstration of our on-going evaluation of attention to the needs of citizens in the winter of their lives, Democrats will attempt to exempt an increased threshold from the transfer inheritance tax. Again, an example of leadership throughout the nation.

Again, after the casino funds are made available, the Democratic Party supports enactment of coverage for a catastrophic illness program, targeted to the elderly and disabled.

A new Democratic administration will maintain the integrity of the casino fund, and avoid even the appearance of shuffling funds to relieve budget pressures elsewhere in state government.

The Democratic Party supports using the bonding power of state authorities to finance fire-safety improvements to boarding homes for needy senior citizens.

The Democratic Party program gives attention to the needs of all our senior citizens, from the hard-pressed homeowner on a fixed income to the helpless resident of a boarding home. We will stretch existing tax dollars to provide the most in services and benefits for them.

42.

#### MINORITIES

State government must provide the leadership and must set the example in providing equal access to all our citizens to economic opportunities in the public and private sectors. A new Democratic Administration and Legislature will mobilize the resources of state government to make equal opportunity a reality rather than a goal.

The economic programs of the national Republican administration and the New Jersey Republican Party are designed to reward the wealthy and large corporations at the expense of the rest of our society. Amazingly, Republicans in New Jersey propose to compound the misery caused by cruel budget cuts in Washington by a massive giveaway of hundreds of millions of tax dollars to corporations.

Democrats, however, recognize the importance of small business, and realize that meaningful economic growth and significant job development can occur only if the state promises support and assistance to our small businesses. That is why Democrats are proposing to target state resources and focus the state's economic development efforts in ways which help urban areas and the small businessmen and women who live and work in those areas.

The new Republican administration in Washington appears to be spending most of its time inflicting economic wrongs than trying to protect human rights. The administration is moving backwards -- or sideways at best -- instead of forward in the pursuit of justice and equality for all Americans.

A new Democratic Governor and Legislature in Trenton will review the state's civil rights enforcement efforts -- particularly in light of the reduced federal commitment -- to determine how protection of hard-won rights can be strengthened both in government and in the private sector. And we will accomplish this through stronger enforcement effort of the State's Affirmative Action Program, including utilization of sanctioning powers where necessary. Targeted recruiting efforts will bring about a greater minority representation in the state and local workforce, especially in areas of high concentration of all minorities.

The Division on Civil Rights would receive special focus by a new Democratic administration, for it is one of the few mechanisms consistently utilized by poorer minorities to address discrimination concerns.

The administration will provide the support necessary to give renewed spirit to an agency previously fraught with decreasing budgets and an increasing backlog of cases.

The new economic realities in Washington will make it more difficult to ease the accustomed hardships of many of our most deserving citizens. New Jersey Republicans would lead us from bad times to worse times by cutting taxes from corporations and assistance for people.

New Jersey needs a Democratic Governor and Legislature in Trenton to be vigilant in protecting the rights of all our people, aggressive in opening doors of opportunity, fair in the design and operation of state programs and compassionate in helping and serving people.

#### CONSUMERS

Under years of Democratic leadership, New Jersey's consumers have fared better than most of the nation's consumers in surviving the ravages of inflation. Although the cost of the necessities of life have increased in New Jersey, these costs have risen far less substantially than in other Northeastern states. Democrats are largely responsible for this lessened economic burden. It was Democrats who created a Department of Public Advocate, which has saved New Jersey's consumers more than \$2.5 billion by fighting on behalf of the public against excessive utility and insurance rate requests.

Democrats have made it possible for consumers to save up to \$15 million per year on prescription drugs, by sponsoring and supporting a measure to permit pharmacists to substitute lower-cost generic drugs with consumer's consent wherever possible. In addition, advertising provisions of this law provide people the opportunity for the cost comparison shopping of prescription drugs.

Competition in the pricing and sale of consumer products was reintroduced following repeal of the Fair Sales Act. Price fixing was eliminated as a result of this, and now cost comparison shopping is the law in New Jersey. It has resulted in substantial savings to consumers since 1975.

Setting hospital rates using private and public insurance company standards gives Democrats the right to take credit for New Jersey's hospital rate increases being held down far more than the nation as a whole.

Democrats have made it possible for the first time in New Jersey's history for consumers to purchase legal insurance on a pre-paid basis, thereby making legal assistance affordable and available to millions of New Jersey consumers. The Homeowners Warranty Program instituted by Democrats protect buyers of new homes by requiring that the builder issue a 10-year warranty at time of sale. It is a model law nationwide.

Plain language standards have been enacted. This will make the purchase of contractual goods and services (such as life and health insurance policies) easier for consumers to understand.

Unit pricing at food stores has made price comparisons of food products easier.

By adopting a land sales disclosure act, Democrats have prevented the use of misleading advertising or sales practices in the purchase of recreational or vacation properties.

45.

By passing bank insolvencies legislation, Democrats made it possible for solvent banking institutions to take over and reorganize insolvent institutions in a timely manner so that customer inconvenience is prevented and the integrity of deposits is protected.

Democrats can also be proud of the initiative they showed in extending enforcement powers to county and local consumer affairs agencies, strengthening and increasing enforcement of the state's consumer laws so that thousands of additional consumers could be protected from fraud and abuse.

The Democratic Party enthusiastically renews its commitment to protecting the rights of the consuming public in New Jersey by preserving a high degree of responsible competition in a marketplace characterized by competitions, quality, service and merchandise, and good faith.

Democrats believe that these twin goals would best be made compatible by maintaining the network of county and local consumer affairs offices as the best system to mediate individual consumer complaints, lighten the burden on our overcrowded court system, educate consumers on their rights and responsibilities, promote responsible business practices, and enforce the strongest set of state consumer protection laws in the nation. We will review the value in creating a licensing system for automobile and television repair shops to reduce fraud and promote professional workmanship. The enforcement powers of Weights and Measures offices on the county level will be retained to continue providing cost-efficient representation. Consumer education courses on the elementary and secondary levels in the public schools will prepare our children to be responsible consumers, we will encourage and support these programs. Drastic reductions in federal funding for Federal Trade Commission and Consumer Product Safety Commission projects which provide unique and essential information for local consumer affairs agencies will continue to be opposed by cost-conscious Democrats. Reforming the automobile insurance system in New Jersey so that:

--Insurance premiums are kept low by measures such as meaningful enforcement and penalty programs for intoxicated drivers, certification of auto repair agencies, optional use of binding arbitration to settle payment disputes, and increased investigation and penalties for insurance claims fraud

46.

--The cost of auto collision repairs is reduced;

--The rate approval process is expedited;

--The no-fault law does not infringe on a victim's right to be made whole, but also compensates for legitimate factors that are driving the costs of claims higher;

--A Joint Underwriting Association is established to replace the current assigned risk plan;

--A rating system exists which does not discriminate against different classes of drivers.

Democrats, enthusiastic about our renewed commitment to mass transportation, will extend the Public Advocate's representation of New Jersey's consumers to route, schedule and fare hearings before the New Jersey Transit Authority.

In New Jersey we will prohibit sellers and creditors from violating established consumer rights in contracts, warranties, and notices.

And we will see that debt collection agencies are prohibited from engaging in unfair or deceptive practices in the collection of consumer debts.

Democrats have been and will continue to be committed to the consumers--all of us--in our state.

47.

LABOR

During the past half-century New Jersey Democrats, as the allies of the state's working men and women, have established in law a system of protection for labor that has resulted in general prosperity. Democrats also believe that negotiating and cooperation is the responsible approach to solving labor/management disputes.

Now, as organized labor is facing the most hostile political climate since the age of Calvin Coolidge, the traditional alliance between the Democratic Party and the Labor movement is being reaffirmed and revitalized. The many fruits of this alliance are clear from the achievements of the current Democratic Administration and Legislature in Trenton.

Together, Democrats and labor have embarked on massive jobs-producing construction -- in partnership with the business community, through the Economic Development Authority; at the Sports Complex; in sewer construction and in housing built by the H.F.A.; in urban industrial parks now being established in areas of high unemployment by the E.D.A. and by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey; and through New Jersey's experiment of carefully controlled casinos in Atlantic City.

Together, Democrats and labor have increased New Jersey's minimum wage from \$1.75 in 1974 to \$3.35 in 1981, guaranteeing that the lowest-paid workers have some protection against inflation.

Together, Democrats and labor have enacted legislation requiring recipients of E.D.A. grants to pay their workers the prevailing wage.

Together, Democrats and labor have, in cooperation with the business community, enacted the first comprehensive reform of the workers' compensation system since its inception.

Together, Democrats and labor have recognized the legitimacy of collective bargaining for public employees -- and extended to the Public Employment Relations Commission jurisdiction over unfair labor practices in the public sector.

Together, Democrats and labor have extended to public employee organizations authorization for "fair share" deductions for costs of representation.

The tangible results are obvious.

Democrats recognize the importance of collective bargaining to assure the rights of workers and to guarantee safe and healthy working conditions.

Democrats will continue efforts and programs to improve conditions for workers. We are committed to enforcing collective bargaining rights for all workers, public and private and to protect employees and their organizations from unreasonable restrictions on their right to bargain collectively.

We will continue to improve and monitor the safety in the work-place and enact protective legislation when necessary.

The long and fruitful relationship between labor and the Democratic Party will flourish in the next Administration. The reform of unemployment insurance system is a major goal of the Democratic Party. Employing the same successful techniques used to reform the worker's compensation programs, Democrats will bring together all interested parties to make New Jersey's unemployment benefits program sound. This solution must be fair and protect the unemployed, it must face the financial burden from business, a disincentive to employment.

Addressing the unemployment compensation program in combination with a crackdown on waste and fraud will save money that can eventually be used for economic development. It is a tough job, but Democrats have demonstrated their ability to solve difficult problems.

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STRENGTHENING OUR CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Democrats in New Jersey proudly acknowledge the diversity and uniqueness of the many ethnic groups which have contributed so significantly to the economic and cultural development of our state and nation. We pledge our continued support for efforts to preserve the identify and traditions of each ethnic group within the framework of our pluralistic society.

We will provide state encouragement to those who work to build upon the accomplishments of their peoples, and will use the full moral and legal force of state government to seek out and stamp out those who despoil the traditions of their neighbors.

Under Democratic leadership, state government will be sensitive to differing cultures and languages which must be taken into consideration in the provision of services to the people of New Jersey. We will ensure -- particularly where state government undertakes to address the needs of the young and the elderly -- that the advice support and participation of ethnic communities is sought in designing and implementing programs appropriate to those we seek to serve. The delivery of these services can be enhanced by using existing networks in our state's ethnic communities.

Democratic leadership and Democratic sensitivity were responsible for the establishment of the Ethnic Advisory Council. A new Democratic Administration and Legislature will support the strengthening of the council and the expansion of its worthwhile programs. We support, as well, the continued planning and development activities of the New Jersey Ethnic Center and hope to assist in the strengthening of its efforts through the building of this center to focus on the uniqueness as well as interdependency of all our communities.

As the state's economy becomes less dependent on manufacturing and increases in diversity, we must provide new job opportunities for workers displaced by changing conditions.

We will continue to address the needs of our workers and encourage their participation in our Party and our government.

New Jersey's greatness and the Democratic Party were built on a commitment to a work ethic that recognizes the value of hard work and in which which we still believe.

Democrats will reaffirm this commitment through involving all our citizens in the decision making processes of government.

#### VETERANS

Democrats in New Jersey recognize and appreciate the contributions of those who have given their time and risked their lives to serve their country.

We have an obligation to support and assist the veterans who responded with courage and without hesitation when called upon to defend our country.

Democrats in New Jersey will continue to fight for construction of the Veteran's Administration Medical Center proposed for the City of Camden. The Republican administration in Washington should not be permitted to carry out this callous breach of faith which will deprive New Jersey veterans of needed health services.

A Democratic Governor and Legislature in Trenton will work to expedite construction of a third veteran's nursing care facility in Bergen County, and will fight for appropriate federal support for this project, as promised. We will, as well, work to expedite completion of a new state veteran's cemetery.

Democrats will continue support for programs of particular concern to younger veterans, such as tuition assistance.

We will continue the important work of the Agent Orange Commission, which was established by Democrats in New Jersey and has attracted national attention for its efforts to identify and assist affected Vietnam veterans.

A Democratic Governor and Legislature will work with our state's veterans to respond with sensitivity to the special needs of both young and elderly veterans, and will attempt to reach out to them and provide the support they have earned through their service and sacrifice.

#### HISPANICS

Hispanic Americans are the fastest growing minority in our nation. The Democratic Party recognizes that state government must work with the Hispanic community in providing programs and services responsive to the needs and traditions of Hispanics.

Democratic initiatives to rebuild our cities, to improve housing conditions, to fight street crime and to stimulate creation of jobs should address the principal concerns of Hispanics and other minorities.

Hispanics in New Jersey share the Democratic Party's fear that Republican budget-cutting in Washington will result in the reduction or elimination of vital human services. We will work to preserve health care, nutritional, educational and child care services which have helped low and moderate income families attempt to struggle through their daily existence.

Democrats in New Jersey will continue our support for bilingual education. We recognize that quality education is of special importance to Hispanic families. Bilingual education permits Hispanic children to learn and grow at a normal pace in school so that they can realize the full benefits of our educational system.

Republicans in Washington and in New Jersey would dismantle bilingual education. We oppose their shortsighted views and review our commitment in this regard.

Democrats in New Jersey will continue to open our party and open state government to Hispanic Americans. We look forward to full participation by Hispanics in the process of shaping the policies which will determine the future of New Jersey.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OUR CITIZENS

The New Jersey Democratic Party reaffirms its support for the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution. Ratification of this amendment is vital if we are to guarantee women in America equality under the law in the workplace.

The national Republican Party in the last election did not commit itself to a government, an economy and a society open to women on an equal basis with men. Republicans did not support the rights of women, and were silent about the Equal Rights Amendment.

We challenge Republicans in New Jersey to speak out and stand up for women in their party and in the state. We await an explanation of how the Republican candidate for Governor can claim to support equal rights while his party supports further inequality and injustice.

To deal with the special problems of women, the Democratic Party will continue our support for the Division on Women in its efforts to identify and meet the needs of the women of this state who comprise the majority of our population. In addition, we support the establishment of Advisory Commissions on the Status of Women in the counties where they have not yet been developed to identify the particular needs of the women in each area and make recommendations to the local Boards of Freeholders.

Democrats can proudly point to New Jersey being the first state to adopt an Affirmative Action Law to provide incentives for women, minorities, ethnics and the handicapped. We have in this field been pointed to as leaders throughout the nation.

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A new Democratic Governor and Legislature will continue to implement recommendations which have resulted from the thorough work of the Commission on Sex Discrimination in the Statutes. We support continuing review of sex-based statutory classifications and modernization of our laws, especially in the areas of marital and family law.

Democrats in New Jersey will work with county and municipal governments and social service agencies to help women and their families survive the harsh and unfeeling budget cuts from Washington.

Democrats will continue and strengthen programs we began to aid displaced homemakers, battered women and victims of rape.

We will vigorously pursue the fight against sex discrimination in all areas of endeavor. A Democratic Governor and Legislature will work to make the concept of equal pay for work of comparable value a matter of fundamental state policy.

Democrats will not ignore the needs or contributions of over half of our population.

We commit the energies of our Party and of a Democratic Administration and Legislature to the cause of full equality.

SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS

Financial support of the arts by Democrats in New Jersey has been consistent. It is now time for an articulated state policy -- particularly in light of the reduction of federal support by Republicans in Washington.

The State of New Jersey appropriates 1/20th of 1% of the state budget for support of the arts -- \$3 million. This turns out to be an investment in a small industry with an economic impact of \$200 million annually, and comprised of a network of nearly 1000 "companies" whose "products" were used over five million times by New Jersey residents in the last fiscal year.

In addition, the arts are an area in which government has not had sole responsibility for providing financial support. The budgets of these organizations, totaling \$30 million dollars, are supported by the corporate sector, private philanthropy, and increasing amounts of earned income.

Democrats will work to develop a strong cultural policy which will include:

- Recognition of the artist as a worker and producer of wanted and needed services. Artists create things that are beautiful and necessary, yet most artists work without the basic benefits enjoyed by much of the American labor force.
- Affirmation of the arts as an integral part of state government, able to contribute to and draw upon the system as a natural participant in the programs and resources of other agencies, for example, tourism, education, human services, transportation, and environmental protection.

--Endorsement of the long-range plan for the cultural development of New Jersey now in progress by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, one of the goals of which is to create a partnership of government, business, private citizens and artists, on both county and state levels, to maximize limited resources and create opportunities.

New Jersey ranks ninth among the states as a home for working artists. These artists contribute significantly to the economic strength of our state as well as its cultural vitality.

Working together with private and corporate supporters of the arts, with local governments and committed citizens, and with the artistic community, Democrats in state government will make New Jersey a leader among the states in its commitment to the arts.

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RECOGNITION OF REGIONAL UNIQUENESS AND A COMMITMENT  
TO FULL REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT

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The legislative record of the past eight years displays an acute understanding of the specialized needs of the unique areas of the state. A College of Medicine and Dentistry was good for Newark; the Meadowlands answered the needs of Bergen County; preservation of farmland was a concern in Hunterdon; and Casino Gambling was a response to the plight of Atlantic City. We will commit to continue tailoring programs designed to help an area to the special needs of that area.

Economic programs, however, will not be affected without consultation with and advice from those regions and localities which will be effected by the change. We guarantee that all implications will be evaluated before changes are made. And we will work with representatives at all levels to ensure that implementation is well-managed.

The new Democratic Administration will pledge that every significant board and agency will have full geographic representation and will bring a broader perspective to the decision-making process.