



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

VIA FAX

June 30, 2012

The Honorable Stephen M. Sweeney
Senate President
935 Kings Highway, Suite 400
West Deptford, New Jersey 08086

The Honorable Shelia Y. Oliver
Speaker of the General Assembly
15-33 Halsted Street, Suite 202
West Orange, New Jersey 07018

Dear Senate President Sweeney and Speaker Oliver:

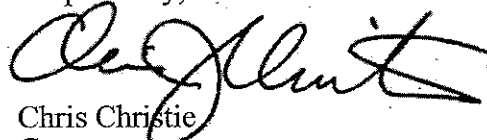
Over the last two years, learning from the failures of past policies, we have worked together to steer our State back on the responsible road of opportunity and prosperity for all. Along the way, the people of New Jersey have been asked to shoulder the shared sacrifices that ultimately produce the shared successes for this generation, and those still to come. That journey has led us now to a fundamental choice: continue to move forward by letting the people, and not the government, enjoy more of the earnings produced by their own labor, or take a step back to repeat the days where taxes were the answer to each and every challenge.

For this reason, and pursuant to my authority under the New Jersey Constitution, Article V, Section I, Paragraph 12, I hereby convene both the Senate and the General Assembly on Monday, July 2, 2012 at 11:00 a.m., in order to communicate my objections to Assembly Bill No. 3201 and Assembly Bill No. 3202, and my recommendations for urgently needed amendments to reform the State's tax laws. Yesterday, I signed the Fiscal Year 2013 Appropriations Act prepared and passed by the legislative majority. That budget, which contained billions of dollars in spending, failed to address the single issue that strikes at the heart of our shared interests, and our continued prosperity. Lowering the tax burden imposed on every New Jersey resident is a matter of unique and critical public interest that demands our immediate and full attention.

As you know, our Nation will celebrate its Independence next Wednesday. On that day, as recorded in the Declaration of Independence 236 years ago, the forefathers of our Union united against the "history of repeated injuries and usurpations" imposed by government, including the imposition of taxes "without our consent." Today, our citizens deserve the same opportunity to decide whether a new direction, embodied in the recommendations I will share, is needed to end the cycle of tax increases that has paralyzed our State's growth, and stunted our citizens' progress. When you convene this Monday at 11:00 a.m., I will ask for the opportunity to address your members on the two paths that face all who are fortunate enough to serve as elected representatives.

Cutting taxes is a choice that has been debated in the homes, business, schools, and streets of our State. It is time for that debate to reach the great Chamber of the Legislature, where words can become action in Trenton as they once did in Philadelphia.

Respectfully,



Chris Christie
Governor