EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"THE LEGISLATURE"

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"The Office of Legislative Services shall monitor, review and report to both houses of the Legislature on each new anti-smoking initiative funded in fiscal year 2000 from the Tobacco Settlement Fund. ((Such sums as may be required for the cost of the monitoring and review are funded from the departmental accounts of the departments in which the initiatives are located.))"

The language in double parentheses is deleted.

"DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS"

- "The amount hereinabove for the Thermal Imaging Camera Grant Program shall be available for grants to regional and local fire organizations ((to fund fifty percent of the purchase cost of thermal imaging cameras, in accordance with guidelines established by the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs)). The thermal imaging cameras shall be procured by the Department of Community Affairs ((and awarded to fire organizations based upon the evaluation of applications submitted to the Division of Fire Safety))."

 The language in double parentheses is deleted.
- "In the event that \$30,000,000 is not appropriated as supplementary Extraordinary Aid ((before July 1, 1999)), there is appropriated such sum for such purpose."

The language in double parentheses is deleted.

36	"05-8050 Community Resources This item is reduced to \$41,498,000.	\$42,603,000."
36	"Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation, Social Services Program This item is reduced to \$44,433,000.	\$45,538,000."
38	"Fairfield Township (Essex County) – Tax Appeal Amelioration This item is deleted in its entirety.	(150,000)."
39	"Glen Ridge – Locomotion 2000 Train Station Restoration This item is reduced to \$30,000.	(100,000)."
43	"Preservation of Russell Hall, Hun School, Princeton This item is reduced to \$200,000.	(400,000)."
43	"Public Safety Training Center, Cape May County This item is reduced to \$700,000.	(950,000)."
45	"Voorhees Township, Police Building This item is reduced to \$65,000.	(300,000)."
45	"Nutley Park Development This item is deleted in its entirety.	(200,000)."
47	"Department of Community Affairs, Total State Appropriation	\$940,461,000."

"DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS"

49 "Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no funds appropriated for Additional Mental Health Treatment Services shall be expended unless the Department of Corrections and its subcontractors shall allow physicians to prescribe, without imposing requirements for prior authorization or other similar restrictions, all Federal Drug Administration approved drugs as the physicians deem are most effective in the treatment of depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia"

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

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54	"Total Direct State Services Appropriation, Albert C. Wagner Youth Correctional Facility	\$41,836,000."
55	"Adult Offender Boot Camp This item is reduced to 4,237,000.	(4,367,000)."
56	"As a condition upon the expenditure of the sums appropriated hereinabove for Administration and Support Services, the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections shall prepare a report which shall be provided to the Legislature on the department's plan to address the department's staffing shortages and include with the report a recommendation of legislative measures that would be needed to implement the plan" The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.	
57	"The amounts appropriated hereinabove for Perimeter Security Enhancement, Various Facilities shall not result in changes in perimeter guard staffing levels at those facilities." The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.	
57	"Department of Corrections, Total State Appropriation This item is reduced to \$922,630,000.	\$922,760,000."
"DEPA	ARTMENT OF EDUCATION"	
64	"From the amount appropriated hereinabove for <u>Abbott</u> v. <u>Burke</u> Parity Remedy aid, a residential charter school which is located in an "Abbott district" shall receive the per pupil amount of <u>Abbott</u> v. <u>Burke</u> Parity Remedy aid which is allocated on behalf of students who are enrolled in the "Abbott district" in which the charter school is located and were enrolled in a public school prior to admission to the charter school." The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.	
67	"30-5063 Academic Programs and Standards This item is reduced to \$2,713,000.	\$2,733,000."
67	"Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation, Educational Support Services	\$2,733,000."
67	"St. Patrick's High School This item is deleted in its entirety.	(20,000)."
70	"Department of Education, Total State Appropriation This item is reduced to \$6,146,741,000."	\$6,146,761,000."
71	"The Commissioner of Education shall not require an audit or review of any grant which equals \$25,000 or less awarded by the Department of Education to a school district unless there is evidence of impropriety in the use or administration of that grant. The commissioner shall only require the submission of a written statement of certification by the superintendent of the district that the funds had been used in the manner required and for the purposes intended under the grant." The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.	
"DEP	ARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION"	
80	"Restoration of Thomas A. Edison Memorial Tower, Edison This item is deleted in its entirety.	782,000"
82	"Department of Environmental Protection, Total State Appropriation This item is reduced to \$298,636,000."	\$299,418,000."

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES"

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- "Legal costs associated with any challenge to any State law or regulation incurred by any family planning agency receiving grant funding from the Department of Health and Senior Services shall be a disallowed expense and no grant appropriation shall be used to reimburse such legal costs." The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.
- "The other general services screen shall be divided into three separate screens, as follows: other administrative services; other general services; and dietary/laundry and linen/housekeeping. A nursing facility with costs that exceed the reasonable limit for the dietary/housekeeping/laundry and linen screens shall receive a credit for any such cost that exceeded the screen, not to exceed the amount by which the facility is under the reasonableness limits for other administrative services and other general service screens."

 The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.
- 94 "Notwithstanding the provision of any law or regulation to the contrary, no change in regulation of reimbursement methodology utilized for Medicaid rate setting for nursing facility services shall be made which will have the effect of reducing aggregate reimbursements to Medicaid nursing facilities below the amount appropriated."

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

"The provisions of N.J.A.C. 10:63-3.6 shall not apply to those nursing facilities whose Medicaid occupancy rate is equal to or greater than 90% as determined procedurally in the same manner as the 75% High Medicaid Incentive Program currently in effect. In addition, no change in regulations governing Medicaid rate setting for nursing facilities whose Medicaid occupancy rate is equal to or greater than 90%, as determined procedurally in the same manner as the 75% High Medicaid Incentive Program currently in effect, shall be made which would have the effect of reducing Medicaid reimbursements to those facilities below the amount appropriated."

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

"DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES"

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the amount appropriated hereinabove for Support of Patients in County Psychiatric Hospitals shall include funding for any additional psychiatric beds for which the Department of Health and Senior Services has indicated that it will issue a call, enabling the facility at which such beds are located to apply for a Certificate of Need on an expedited basis, in order to make such beds available by the end of the calendar year 1999."

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety

"DEPARTMENT OF LABOR"

"Notwithstanding the provisions of the "1992 New Jersey Employment and Workforce Development Act, P.L. 1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-1 et seq.), in addition to the amount appropriated hereinabove for Sheltered Workshop Transportation, \$700,000 is appropriated from the Workforce Development Partnership Fund for the same purpose; and \$700,000 from the amount hereinabove for Sheltered Workshop Transportation is transferred to the Department of Transportation for the Transportation Assistance for Senior Citizens and Disabled Residents program."

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

"DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS"

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148	"Total Direct State Services Appropriation, Veterans' Program Support This item is reduced to \$5,077,000.	\$5,327,000."
148	"World War II National Memorial—New Jersey Share This item is deleted in its entirety.	(250,000)."
150	"Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, Total State Appropriation This item is reduced to \$69,921,000.	\$70,171,000."
"DEPARTM	ENT OF STATE"	
153	"07-2540 Development of Historical Resources	2,475,000."
153	"Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation, Cultural and Intellectual Development Services	21,502,000."
154	"Waterloo Foundation Historic Interpretive Program This item is deleted in its entirety.	(100,000)."
158	"82-2420 Institutional Support This item is reduced to \$742,011,000.	\$742,161,000."
158	" Subtotal General Operations This item is reduced to \$742,011,000.	\$742,161,000."
158	"Total Appropriation, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey This item is reduced to \$177,431,000.	\$177,581,000."
158	"General Institutional Operations This item is reduced to \$740,298,000.	(\$740,448,000)."
159	"Of the sums hereinabove appropriated for the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, there is \$100,000 for the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center, \$800,000 for Emergency Medical Service – Camden, \$975,000 for the Regional Health Education Center – Physical Plant, \$750,000 for the Violence Institute of N.J. at UMDNJ, \$525,000 for the Regional Health Education Center – Educational Units, ((\$600,000)) for the New Jersey Area Health Education Program and \$2,700,000 for Debt Service – School of Osteopathic Medicine Academic Center, Stratford. These accounts shall be considered special purpose appropriations for accounting and reporting purposes."	
160	"82-2445 Institutional Support This item is reduced to \$111,305,000.	\$112,055,000."
160	" Subtotal General Operations	\$112,055,000."
160	"Total Appropriation, Rowan University This item is reduced to \$36,213,000.	\$36,963,000."
160	"General Institutional Operations This item is reduced to \$110,855,000.	(\$111,605,000)."
164	"Land Purchase This item is reduced to \$3,000,000.	\$4,000,000."
165	"Department of State, Total Appropriation This item is reduced to \$909,311,000.	\$911,311,000."

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION"

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"Such amount as is necessary from the Administration and Support services program classification in the Regulation and General Management State-wide program in the department is allocated for the Commissioner of Transportation to identify the 10 most congested traffic locations in the State, after consultation with the Division of State Police in the Department of Law and Public Safety and local traffic enforcement officials, and to make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on measures necessary to remedy these 10 most congested traffic locations as part of the State's compliance with the federal Clean Air Act."

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

176 "From the amount appropriated hereinabove from the revenues and other funds of the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund Authority, there is allocated \$300,000 for a study of Route 22 traffic congestion mitigation."

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

"DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY"

179	"47-2155 Support to Independent Institutions	25,262,000."
180	"49-2155 Miscellaneous Higher Education Programs This item is reduced to \$71,444,000.	71,860,000."
180	"Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation, Higher Educational Services This item is reduced to \$255,966,000.	\$256,632,000."
180	"Discrete Mathematics and Computer Science CenterInstitute for Advanced Study This item is reduced to \$100,000.	(150,000)."
180	"Research Under Contract with the Institute of Medical Research, Camden This item is reduced to \$787,000.	(987,000.)"
181	"Scholarships for Internship Programs by The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars This item is deleted in its entirety.	(100,000)."
181	"Mercer County Community College – Television Equipment This item is deleted in its entirety.	(300,000)."
181	"Brookdale Community College – Television Production Equipment This item is deleted in its entirety.	(16,000)."
182	"The amount appropriated hereinabove for Scholarships for Internship Programs by the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars shall provide qualified applicants who are students at New Jersey public institutions of higher education with scholarship awards in the amount not to exceed \$2,000 per qualified applicant for enrollment in internship programs offered for academic credit by The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars." The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.	
182	"48-2155 Aid to County Colleges This item is reduced to \$174,220,000.	\$174,370,000."
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"Total State Aid Appropriation, Higher Educational Services...

Education Feasibility Study.....

This item is reduced to \$174,220,000.

This item is deleted in its entirety.

"Multi-County Regional Institution of Higher

\$174,370,000."

(150,000)."

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"The amount hereinabove for a Multi-County Regional Institution of Higher Education Feasibility Study shall be used for a study by the Freeholders of Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties to thoroughly analyze the feasibility of sharing services, combining programs and collaborative undertakings among the three independent community colleges while respecting the value and benefits of the intra-county mission and programs of these three colleges. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the involvement of elected county officials, college trustees, faculty, administrative staff, students, the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges and the Commission on Higher Education. There shall be public hearings to receive testimony from the citizens of the three counties during the course of the study. Finally, the study shall be coordinated with an assessment and analysis of the need for upper-level college courses and degrees in northwestern New Jersey. The Feasibility Study shall be conducted only upon the participation of two of the three counties in the joint venture. Any consultants retained for the study shall be appointed by the mutual consent of the participating Boards of Chosen Freeholders." The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

"Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 is appropriated to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting, for the purpose of investing such money in an export finance company, pursuant to section 4 of P.L. 1995, c.209 (C.34:1B-96). Such amount shall be invested by the authority in the export finance company in accordance with a schedule determined by the State Treasurer after the Export Finance Company Advisory Council, established pursuant to section 7 of P.L. 1995, c.209 (C.34:1B-99), certifies that sufficient funds have been committed from private sources to implement the purposes of the "Export P.L. 1995, c.209 (C.34:1B-93 et seq.)."

This item is reduced to \$400,000.

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

"No amounts appropriated for the Taxation Services and Administration program classification shall be used for sales tax audits unless the sales tax audits conducted by the Division of Taxation on retail establishments are predicated on actual sales made by the person being audited for the time period being reviewed. Auditors shall verify that sales tax was collected and remitted on actual sales, based on, but not limited to, logs, register tapes, computer records, daily sales reports and bank deposits, submitted by the person being audited. In the event that the person being audited cannot produce documentation of actual sales, collection of sales tax to the State, then the auditor shall utilize a formula that accurately models or depicts the nature of the business being audited, to determine the sales tax obligation of the person being audited."

The quoted language is deleted in its entirety.

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196 "Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, the amount hereinabove for Solid Waste Management-County Environmental Investment Debt Service Aid, in addition to an amount not to exceed \$13,000,000 and the unexpended balance as of June 30, 1999 in this account, are appropriated to subsidize county and county authority debt service payments for environmental investments incurred as of June 30, 1997, pursuant to the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, c.39 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.) and the "Solid Waste Utility Control Act," P.L.1970, c.40 (C.48:13A-1 et seq.) and to subsidize county due obligations financed through county taxes pursuant to a settlement agreement approved by the Department of Environmental Protection prior to December 1, 1997 that financed solid waste facilities that were part of a solid waste plan approved by the Department of Environmental Protection and which were the subject of an interdistrict agreement, in accordance with the criteria and program guidelines established by the Commissioners of the Departments of Community Affairs and Environmental Protection and the State Treasurer subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting. Expenditure of such funds are conditioned upon the State Treasurer having conducted or contracted for an operational audit of such county or county authority, and such county or county authority having implemented the audit recommendations to the satisfaction of the State Treasurer. Prior to the distribution of any amounts to a county or county authority, the State Treasurer shall notify ((and obtain approval of)) the Joint Budget Oversight Committee of the amount and recipient of each distribution and shall notify the committee of the progress of each county and county authority in implementing the audit recommendations."

The language within the double parentheses is deleted.

198 "((Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary,)) there is appropriated ((from the Drug Enforcement and Demand Reduction Fund)) \$250,000 to the First Night New Jersey Coalition."

The language within the double parentheses is deleted.

200	"Department of the Treasury, Total State Appropriation
226	"Total Appropriation, All State Funds\$19,519,891,000." This item is reduced to \$19,514,382,000.
272	"Grand Total Appropriation, All Funds\$26,241,779,000." This item is reduced to \$26,236,270,000.

"GENERAL PROVISIONS"

281 "54. If receipts to the Tobacco Settlement Fund are less than anticipated, such sums as are necessary up to the limit of the appropriations above ((, except for Anti-Smoking Initiatives,)) shall be appropriated from the General Fund, subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting. If receipts are more than anticipated, such sums shall be appropriated at a later date."

The language within the double parentheses is deleted.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY

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Language that directs Departments to pay for the cost of monitoring and reviewing new initiatives funded by the Tobacco Settlement Fund is deleted. Given that these audits will be performed by the Office of Legislative Services (OLS), the costs of such audits should be assumed by OLS.

"DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS"

- Portions of the language provision for the Thermal Imaging Camera Grant Program are deleted. A separate piece of legislation will provide a formula by which these funds will be allocated.
- It was anticipated that the \$30,000,000 appropriation for supplementary Extraordinary Aid would be enacted as part of a fiscal year 1999 supplemental. Since it appears that this June 30, 1999 deadline will not be met, it is necessary to delete the portion of the language provision referring to July 1, 1999.
- 38 The \$150,000 appropriation for Fairfield Township (Essex County) Tax Appeal Amelioration is eliminated. The Extraordinary Aid program provides funds, where appropriate, to address hardships resulting from tax appeals.
- 39 The \$100,000 appropriation for Glen Ridge Locomotion 2000 Train Station Restoration is reduced to \$30,000. Based on information provided to the administration, \$30,000 is sufficient to fund this project.
- The \$400,000 appropriation for the Preservation of Russell Hall, Hun School, Princeton is reduced to \$200,000. Based on information provided to the administration, \$200,000 is sufficient for this project.
- The \$950,000 appropriation for the Public Safety Training Center is reduced to \$700,000. Based on information provided to the administration, \$700,000 is sufficient for this project.
- The \$300,000 appropriation to the Voorhees Township Police Building is reduced to \$65,000. Based on information provided to the administration, \$65,000 is sufficient for this project at this time.
- The \$200,000 appropriation for Nutley Park Development is eliminated. This project is funded through a duplicate appropriation in this act.

"DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS"

- 49 Language imposing requirements on the prescription of drugs for the delivery of mental health treatment services is deleted. The Department of Corrections, in consultation with mental health professionals, will determine the most effective mental health treatment for inmates.
- An additional appropriation of \$130,000 for air conditioning the gymnasium and the housing units of the Adult Offender Boot Camp is deleted. Air conditioning for inmates is not considered a priority for capital funding.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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- Language requiring a report on staffing and plan implementation is deleted. The Department of Corrections, in conjunction with the National Institute of Corrections, is currently conducting a staffing analysis and will notify the Legislature of its conclusions.
- Language prohibiting changes in perimeter guard staffing levels resulting from perimeter security enhancements is eliminated. The Commissioner of Corrections is responsible for managing the State's prisons and will make recommendations based on the staffing analysis it is currently conducting.

"DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION"

- Language requiring Abbott districts to pay the full amount of parity dollars for students attending boarding charter schools located in an Abbott district is deleted. This provision is technically incorrect and would have an unanticipated fiscal impact on the Trenton school district.
- The \$20,000 appropriation for St. Patrick's High School is eliminated. This appropriation for routine maintenance is not a funding priority. This budget includes an additional \$8 million appropriation for aid to non-public schools.
- Language preventing the Commissioner of Education from conducting an audit of any grant awarded by the Department of \$25,000 or less, unless there is evidence of mismanagement or impropriety, is deleted. The Commissioner of Education is prepared to address concerns regarding these requirements through administrative action.

"DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION"

The appropriation of \$782,000 for restoration of Thomas A. Edison Memorial Tower is deleted. The fiscal 2000 budget provides \$250,000 for the design phase of the renovations to Edison Tower. It would be premature to appropriate additional funding for the construction phase of the renovation at this time.

"DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES"

- Language prohibiting family planning agencies from using State funds to pay for legal challenges to State law or regulation is deleted. Although this language may have some merit in concept, it should not be applied to only one of the State's many grant programs.
- Language regulating nursing home reimbursement is deleted. Regulations regarding the reimbursement of general service cost screens will become effective July 1, 1999.
- Language requiring that no change in reimbursement methodology be made to Medicaid nursing homes below what is appropriated is deleted. The language would have restricted efforts to comprehensively design and implement a new nursing home rate setting system.
- Language that supercedes current Department regulations governing reimbursement rates to nursing homes is eliminated. This language would exempt nursing homes with high Medicaid occupancy from adhering to any limit for their reimbursable general service costs, and would allow these nursing homes to continue to bill taxpayers twice for equipment expenses. This language would have resulted in increased costs of approximately \$17.4 million in fiscal 2000.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES"

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Language that would enable counties to use State Aid appropriations to expand the number of psychiatric hospital beds and to apply for a Certificate of Need (CN) on an expedited basis is eliminated. This language is eliminated because it hinders the State's ability to properly determine the needs of the mental health service delivery system and because it is unfair to exempt certain classes of providers from a full and proper review while other classes are not exempt.

"DEPARTMENT OF LABOR"

Language that allocates funding from the Workforce Development Fund to the Sheltered Workshop Transportation program which is then transferred to the Department of Transportation is deleted in its entirety. This is an inappropriate use of these funds.

"DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS"

This item is eliminated in its entirety. The Governor has signed legislation providing \$580,000 in funding for the World War II Memorial.

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE"

- The appropriation for the Waterloo Foundation Historic Interpretive Program is deleted. The foundation may apply for operational funding through available grant programs.
- The General Institution Operations, UMDNJ increased appropriation of \$600,000 for the New Jersey Area Health Education Program is reduced to \$450,000. Based on information provided to the administration, \$450,000 is sufficient for this project at this time.
- The language for the New Jersey Area Health Education Program is modified to reflect the reduction in the appropriation.
- The General Institution Operations line is reduced by the \$750,000 added for the School of Engineering and the Camden Urban Center at Rowan University. These items are funded in Rowan University's base budget in fiscal 2000, which includes a 3.5% increase in State aid provided to all senior colleges and universities, an increase that is twice the rate of inflation.
- The appropriation of \$4,000,000 for the purchase of land in Newark for the New Jersey Institute of Technology is reduced to \$3,000,000. The administration has worked with higher education institutions to develop a comprehensive program to address capital construction needs. Existing resources will be supplemented by \$550 million in new bonding capacity for capital construction needs at these institutions.

"DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION"

- Language specifying the number of traffic locations (10) that the Department must identify is deleted. In April 1998, the Department of Transportation identified the 40 most congested traffic locations in the State in conformance with the Governor's Transportation Vision Plan.
- Language appropriating funds from the Transportation Trust Fund for Route 22 is eliminated. The Department has identified resources within its existing budget to perform this study.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY"

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- Funding of \$150,000 for the Discrete Mathematics Institute at the Institute for Advanced Study is reduced to its fiscal 1999 level of \$100,000.
- The \$987,000 appropriation for the Research Under Contract with the Coriell Institute of Medical Research, Camden is reduced to \$787,000. The Coriell Institute received a \$5 million State loan in fiscal 1999, and is scheduled to receive another \$515,000 State loan for economic development; therefore, additional funding is not recommended at this time.
- 181 The appropriation for the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars is deleted. Funding for such a program is more appropriate from private sources.
- The appropriation of \$300,000 for the Television Equipment at Mercer County Community College is eliminated. County colleges are receiving significant increases in direct state operating aid in fiscal 2000.
- Funding of \$16,000 for the Brookdale Community College Television Production Equipment is eliminated. County colleges are receiving significant increases in direct state operating aid in fiscal 2000.
- Language for the Washington Center for Internship and Academic Seminars is deleted to reflect the elimination of the appropriation.
- Funding of \$150,000 for the Multi-County Regional Institution of Higher Education Feasibility Study is deleted. Requests for funding should be coordinated through the Commission on Higher Education.
- Language for the Multi-County Regional Institution of Higher Education Feasibility Study is deleted to reflect the elimination of the appropriation.
- The \$806,000 appropriation for International Accounts Managers and Foreign Trade Offices is reduced to \$400,000. This increase will enable the New Jersey Commerce and Economic Growth Commission to expand its current level of effort for International Trade by nearly 50 percent.
- Language which provides an appropriation of \$2,000,000 to support an export finance company is eliminated. The International Trade Program, operated by the New Jersey Commerce and Economic Growth Commission, provides sufficient export financing services to businesses in the State.
- Language prohibiting the use of appropriations made to the Division of Taxation to fund sales tax audits unless the Division uses audit methods prescribed by the Legislature is eliminated. This language inappropriately restricts the ability of the Division of Taxation to enforce the State's tax laws.
- Language that would require funds for Solid Waste Management -- County Environmental Investment Debt Service Aid to be approved by the Joint Budget Oversight Committee (JBOC) prior to disbursement is eliminated. Language requiring JBOC approval could delay the funding for emergency solid waste debt service aid. The administration will continue to cooperate with the Legislature in providing information about this program.

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Language which appropriates \$250,000 from the Drug Enforcement and Demand Reduction Fund (DEDR) to fund the First Night New Jersey Coalition is revised. Resources from DEDR are statutorily dedicated to fund alcohol and drug abuse programs. This program is more appropriately funded with General Fund resources.

"GENERAL PROVISIONS"

Language prohibiting anti-smoking initiatives from being funded by the General Fund if Tobacco Settlement revenue is not received is eliminated. Deletion of this language provides the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting with the authority to appropriate General Funds to support these programs as appropriate.

Respectfully,

/s/ Christine Todd Whitman

Governor

Attested:

/s/ Richard S. Mroz

Chief Counsel