

**ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4103  
(First Reprint)**

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 4103 (First Reprint) without my approval.

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Workforce Development Partnership Fund (the "Fund") provides invaluable support for employment and training services that are provided to qualified displaced, disadvantaged, and unemployed workers. This bill would set aside a portion of the Fund already allocated to help displaced workers generally to provide training and educational instruction only to former employees of casino licensees.

I certainly agree that it is important to provide training and educational opportunities to those who are unemployed and actively seeking employment. However, the State cannot and should not give preferential treatment to one group over others who are equally deserving.

My return of this bill does not close the door on training and educational opportunities for former casino workers. To the contrary, those individuals who are unemployed due to the casino closures will still be eligible for training and educational support through the Fund. My intention is to treat all individuals of this State in the same manner and ensure that all displaced workers have an equal opportunity to receive training and education to advance their career prospects.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 4103 (First Reprint) without my approval.

[seal]

Respectfully,  
/s/ Chris Christie  
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Thomas P. Scrivo  
Chief Counsel to the Governor