

**SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NOS. 779 and 1952
(Second Reprint)**

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning the Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill Nos. 779 and 1952 (Second Reprint) without my approval.

This bill would create a \$60 million annual cost for the next seven years to fund film and digital media tax credits that I have previously vetoed. My impetus for that veto and the reason for my veto today is that the Legislature has chosen to advance an expensive bill that offers a dubious return for the State in the form of jobs and economic impact, and that I believe we should consider, if at all, during the upcoming budget negotiation process.

I look forward to working with the sponsors of this bill in formulating a budget that makes sense. In enacting a balanced budget, we must be wary of expenditures that do not produce a hearty return on our investment. For every dollar that the Legislature seeks to spend on proposals like this, one less dollar must be spent on other programs. Every year, I ask the Legislature to join me in making the tough choices to dedicate additional funding to economic growth and job creation -- which they claim is the priority of the present bill -- without raising taxes. Only in that context will we be able to reach a responsible budget that fulfills our obligations to the people who elected us, and continue on the road to economic prosperity.

Accordingly, I herewith return the Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill Nos. 779 and 1952 (Second Reprint) without my approval.

[seal]

Respectfully,
/s/ Chris Christie
Governor

Attest:

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