

SENATE BILL NO. 572

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 572 with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This legislation would provide county sheriffs with the authority to delegate the administrative duties under chapter 50 of Title 2A of the New Jersey Statutes, pertaining to the State's foreclosure law, to a designated undersheriff.

I am concerned that this legislation will allow sheriffs to abdicate complete responsibility over the foreclosure processes within their counties. As elected officials, sheriffs are charged with the people's trust. One of the responsibilities of that charge is to ensure a fair and just administration of the foreclosure process, in the unfortunate event that such proceedings become necessary. As we continue to struggle through an unprecedented economic recession and foreclosure crisis, now more than ever, the people of this State need their elected officials to stand at the helm.

However, I am also mindful of the fact that efficiencies can be realized by allowing sheriffs to delegate some administrative responsibilities. Therefore, I am returning this legislation with my recommendation that sheriffs be allowed to delegate administrative responsibilities as provided under this legislation, but must still maintain responsibility for the final execution of foreclosure documents.

Accordingly, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 572 and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 2, Section 1, Line 11:

After "county sheriff,"
insert "except for the duty
to execute a deed or deeds
for the premises sold or

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other conveyance as the
court shall order,"

Page 2, Section 1, Line 13:

"undersheriff."
After insert "If a sheriff elects
to make such a delegation,
all foreclosure documents,
including, but not limited
to, the notices required
under article 1 of chapter
61 of Title 2A of the New
Jersey Statutes, must still
include the name and title
of the sheriff."

Respectfully,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Jeffrey S. Chiesa

Chief Counsel to the Governor