

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2906

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 2906 without my approval.

In this bill, New Jersey taxpayers are finally offered a blueprint from the Democratic majority that outlines their vision for cutting taxes: exclude any compensation paid to members of district boards of election, commonly referred to as "poll workers," for services rendered in an election, from the Gross Income Tax. The Legislature's own fiscal analysis accompanying this bill estimates that it would provide a net benefit of \$13 to \$20 per election worker.

While I recognize the important work performed by Election Day poll workers, I do not believe that this small subset of workers deserves special tax treatment and deductions. Indeed, for more than five years, I have consistently called upon the Legislature to reduce the tax burden on all New Jersey taxpayers, and have advocated for many proposals that would provide real and sustainable tax reform for our citizens. The legislative majority has steadfastly refused that call until now, when they selectively propose a special bump in pay to election staff. I will not approve such trivial and selective relief and, once more, ask that the Legislature work with me to craft sensible and broad-based tax relief that will strengthen working families, and improve our State's future.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 2906 without my approval.

[seal]

Respectfully,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Thomas P. Scervo

Chief Counsel to the Governor