

**SENATE BILL NO. 2260**  
**(First Reprint)**

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 2260 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill would lessen the requirements imposed on check casher licensees and increase the fees permitted to be charged by cash checking licensees on certain checks. I support most of the reforms in the bill as a means to reduce the regulatory burdens on this industry, however, I cannot sign a bill that increases the fees charged to our most under-privileged citizens, the primary persons utilizing check cashing services.

It is apparent that the continued growth in the use of direct deposit and electronic payment services will endure to the detriment of check casher licensees. While the Legislature's efforts to save the check cashing industry in the face of these technological advances are commendable, it is not appropriate to do so off the backs of our most disadvantaged citizens.

New Jersey's maximum rate for fees permitted to be charged by checking cashing licensees is consistent with such rates in New York, Connecticut and Delaware and there is no cogent reason to increase them. Indeed, the Department of Banking and Insurance, the primary regulatory authority in this area, has seen no basis to increase these fees in years. The remaining provisions in the bill are more than sufficient to ease the regulatory and financial burdens of check cashing licensees without compromising the ability of the State to monitor suspicious activity.

Accordingly, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 2260 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

<u>Page 2, Title, Lines 1-2:</u>	Delete "and supplementing"
<u>Page 2, Section 1, Lines 7-43:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 3, Section 2, Line 1:</u>	Delete "2." and insert "1."
<u>Page 4, Section 3, Line 9:</u>	Delete "3." and insert "2."
<u>Page 4, Section 3, Lines 43-47:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 5, Section 4, Line 1:</u>	Delete "4." and insert "3."
<u>Page 6, Section 5, Line 38:</u>	Delete "5." and insert "4."
<u>Page 7, Section 6, Line 39:</u>	Delete "6." and insert "5."
<u>Page 8, Section 7, Line 1:</u>	Delete "7." and insert "6."
<u>Page 8, Section 7, Line 1:</u>	Delete "5" and insert "4"
<u>Page 8, Section 7, Line 2:</u>	Delete "6" and insert "5"

Respectfully,

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Thomas P. Scrivo

Chief Counsel to the Governor