



## **“We Acted And We Acted Together”**

*In His Second Term, Governor Christie Will Build On An Unprecedented Record Of Bipartisan Reform*

---

### **PUTTING NEW JERSEY’S FISCAL HOUSE IN ORDER:**

Throughout his first term, Governor Christie kept his promise to restore fiscal sanity to Trenton passing four consecutive balanced budgets with Zero New Taxes.

- Governor Christie closed a combined \$13 billion deficit in his first six months in office and put New Jersey on a sounder fiscal footing.
- Governor Christie has held spending below Fiscal Year 2008 levels every year in office.
- Governor Christie’s efforts have resulted in a more efficient and streamlined state government. Today, there are 6,000 fewer state employees than 2009.

Governor Christie signed historic sweeping bipartisan pension and benefits reform that will save New Jersey taxpayers \$120 billion over the next 30 years.

### **SWEEPING EDUCATION REFORM:**

- **Historic, Bipartisan Changes To The Nation’s Oldest Tenure Law:** Marking the first extensive reform of New Jersey’s tenure law in over 100 years, Governor Christie signed into law the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability for the Children of New Jersey (TEACHNJ) Act, a sweeping, bipartisan overhaul of the oldest tenure law in the nation.
- **Working With Teachers To Bring Performance-Based Pay To Newark Schools:** For the first time in New Jersey history, teachers in Newark will earn raises and be eligible for additional bonuses based on annual performance evaluations that include measuring the progress being made by their students.
- **The Most School Funding In New Jersey History:** Total state aid to schools in the current budget is nearly \$9 billion, marking the third year in a row of setting a historic high.
- **Expanding School Options For Children And Their Families:** The Christie Administration has increased the overall number of charter schools in New Jersey to 87, while relentlessly focusing on quality and holding all schools accountable for results by closing 10 low-performing charter schools; five in the last year.
- **Historic Reorganization Of Higher Education Institutions.** Governor Chris Christie signed a bipartisan realignment of New Jersey’s higher education institutions, achieving a long-awaited, dramatic overhaul and strengthening of the state’s higher education system that had eluded leaders in the state for more than a decade.
- **Expanding Access To In-State Tuition To New Jersey’s Dreamers.** Following through on his promise to bring tuition equality to all New Jersey students who wish to attend college in the state, Governor Christie signed the landmark New Jersey Dream Act in December 2013.

## REINING IN PROPERTY TAXES:

**A 2 Percent Hard Cap On Property Taxes:** In July 2010, Governor Christie signed into law a 2% hard cap on property taxes, marking the first significant step toward bringing lasting property tax reform to New Jersey.

- By the time Governor Christie took office, New Jersey's highest in the nation property taxes had increased more than 70 percent since 1999.
- In 2012, "New Jersey homeowner taxes went up 1.4 percent last year, the smallest bump in more than two decades and a hard-fought milestone for one of the highest-taxed states in America."
  - *The Star-Ledger: "At Long Last, Tax Relief"*

## PROMOTING JOB GROWTH:

- Governor Christie signed the Bipartisan Economic Opportunity Act of 2013 to boost New Jersey's economy and create private sector jobs.
  - *Assembly Majority Leader Lou Greenwald (D): "This is the singular, most significant piece of legislation in the last decade that will mean jobs, economic development [and] economic growth ..."*
- Governor Christie cut taxes by \$2.35 Billion for new jersey's job creators.

## PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE:

- **Expanded Access To Health Care Coverage For New Jersey's Most Vulnerable Citizens Through Medicaid.** New Jersey already has one of the most expansive and generous Medicaid programs in the nation, including the second highest eligibility rate for children. Expanding Medicaid will mean that more New Jerseyans at or near the poverty line will have access to critical health services.
- **Historic Funding To Increase Access To Health Centers:** New Jersey's 105 community health care centers provide comprehensive services to nearly half a million of the state's most vulnerable citizens, including vaccinations, dental care and health screenings. Total state support for FQHCs is **\$50 million** in reimbursement – an all-time high.
- **Expanding The Drug Court Program For Non-Violent Drug Offenders:** Governor Christie firmly believes that no life is disposable. The FY 2013 budget provides \$2.5 million for an expansion of the drug court program for all non-violent drug offenders, because everyone deserves a second chance. Governor Christie also signed a Good Samaritan law to encourage people to report overdoses by providing legal immunity.