To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 4230 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

I commend the sponsors for their efforts to further clarify how some of the tax revenue generated from sports betting will be used. Nonetheless, certain aspects of the bill could be improved with minor amendments. Therefore, I am recommending sensible changes to the bill that will address some of the technical concerns articulated by the State’s various departments involved in fiscal matters. Specifically, I believe that the accounts established to distribute money back to municipalities and counties should be set up by the Department of the Treasury, which performs these functions, and not the Division of Local Government Services. I am also recommending a delay in the effective date in order to give the Department of the Treasury time to prepare for the law’s implementation.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 4230 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 2, Section 1, Lines 39-40: Delete “Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs” and insert “Department of the Treasury”

Page 3, Section 1, Lines 8-9: Delete “Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs” and insert “Department of the Treasury”
Page 3, Section 2, Line 32: Delete “immediately” and insert “60 days following enactment”

Respectfully,

[seal]

/s/ Philip D. Murphy
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Matthew J. Platkin
Chief Counsel to the Governor