

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2763
(First Reprint)

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 2763 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

Assembly Bill No. 2763 (First Reprint), Assembly Bill No. 2762 (First Reprint), Assembly Bill No. 4118, and Senate Bill No. 844, all address various aspects of our temporary disability and family leave insurance systems. Assembly Bill No. 2763 expands the categories of data that the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development must provide in annual reports of the temporary disability and family leave insurance programs. This expansion will supply critical information regarding usage of these important programs across populations.

I unequivocally support the expansion of these benefits for workers in the State, and will continue to work with the Legislature on future legislation addressing shortfalls in coverage, underutilization by vulnerable populations, and inequities in benefit administration. I have identified, however, significant issues with the infrastructure supporting these programs. As a result, I am concerned these bills require changes that will render the Department of Labor and Workforce Development ("DOLWD") unable to administer the benefits contemplated by the bills, and will disrupt the timely delivery of all benefits managed by the system. I have recommended an extension of the effective dates of the bills to allow additional time for the Department to implement these measures.

In the interim, I have directed the DOLWD to work with the Office of Information Technology on coordinating a strategy for implementation and locating opportunities for much-needed

modernization of the Department's computer systems.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 2763
(First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 3, Section 2, Line 26: Delete "immediately" and
insert "one year after the date
of enactment"

Respectfully,

[seal]

/s/ Philip D. Murphy

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Matthew J. Platkin

Chief Counsel to the Governor