

**GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT UPON SIGNING
SENATE BILL NO. 1229
(Second Reprint)**

Today I have signed Senate Bill No. 1229 (Second Reprint), which, among other things, increases the annual salaries of our State judges. This long overdue measure marks the first increase in judicial salaries in nearly a decade and is critical to ensuring that we continue to retain and attract quality legal talent to the State bench.

As important as it is to make sure judges and senior public servants are justly compensated, we cannot allow ourselves to forget the more than one million hardworking New Jerseyans who are currently struggling to provide for themselves and their families on a substandard hourly wage. This is completely unacceptable - and changing this unfair status quo has been a priority of mine since day one.

I urge the Legislature to move quickly to advance legislation that will increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. A \$15 minimum wage will not only ensure that all New Jersey workers can earn a livable wage, but will also stimulate and strengthen our economy.

Date: May 18, 2018

/s/ Philip D. Murphy

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Matthew J. Platkin

Chief Counsel to the Governor