WHEREAS, it is imperative that the hundreds of proposed and pending State rules and regulations, as well as the hundreds of operative Executive Orders by previous Governors, should be thoroughly reviewed, in a thoughtful, balanced and expeditious way in order to assess their potential or actual effects on New Jersey’s economy, to determine whether their costs and other burdens on businesses, workers and local governments outweigh their intended benefits, and to provide a basis for recommendations to the Governor to withdraw or amend any proposed rules and regulations that unduly burden New Jersey’s businesses, workers, and local governments; and

WHEREAS, this review should be conducted by a bipartisan group of persons, including representatives from both the Executive and Legislative Branches of State Government, who are devoted to the common goal of promptly addressing New Jersey’s urgent economic crisis; and

WHEREAS, this review should be conducted with transparency, including an opportunity for members of the public to obtain information about the group’s ongoing work and to communicate pertinent information and opinions in an appropriate and effective manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State do hereby ORDER, and DIRECT:

1. There is hereby created a Red Tape Review Group (or “Group”), which shall undertake a review of certain rules, regulations and processes that are a burden on New Jersey’s economy. In addition, the Group shall comprehensively review all pending and proposed rules and regulations, as well as all operative Executive Orders from previous administrations, in order to assess their effects on New Jersey’s economy and to determine whether their burdens on business and workers outweigh their intended benefits.

2. The Group shall provide a written report to the Governor, making detailed recommendations to rescind, repeal or amend any
provisions that unduly burden business and workers within 90 days of the date of this Order.

3. The Red Tape Review Group shall be chaired by the Lieutenant Governor.

4. The Group shall consist of the Lieutenant Governor, the Chief Counsel to the Governor, or his designee, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, or his designee, the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, or his/her designee, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly, or their respective designees, the Senate Minority Leader and the General Assembly Minority Leader, or their respective designees. The Lieutenant Governor may, at her discretion, appoint additional persons to provide the Group with necessary and appropriate expertise and stakeholder representation.

5. The Chair shall have the discretion to make internal rules of procedure regarding the Group’s governance and operations, including the number of Members sufficient to vote for its recommendations and the form of its reports.

6. All departments and agencies, and all authorities that are required to submit their minutes, resolutions or actions for gubernatorial approval or veto shall cooperate fully with the Group in the implementation of this Order, and shall promptly furnish the members of the panel with any and all information that they may from time to time request.

7. The Group is authorized to call upon any department, office, division or agency of this State to supply it with data and other information, personnel or assistance it deems necessary to discharge its duties under this Order. Each department, officer, division or agency of the State is hereby required, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate with the panel and to furnish it with such information, personnel and assistance as is necessary to accomplish the purpose of this Order.
8. The Group shall take care to solicit both written and oral comments from the public, including businesses, workers, professional, labor and community organizations, environmental and other affected persons or entities as the Group deems appropriate, and to consider the views expressed by those parties in any report.

9. This Order is not intended to, and does not, confer any legal rights upon any persons or entities regulated by any agency of the New Jersey State Government, and it shall not be used as a basis for legal challenges to statutes, regulations, or other actions or to any inaction of any governmental entity subject to it.

10. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this 20th day of January, Two Thousand and Ten, and of the Independence of the United States, the Two Hundred and Thirty-Fourth.

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Jeffrey S. Chiesa
Chief Counsel to the Governor