

REMARKS OF GOVERNOR THOMAS H. KEAN  
ANNUAL MESSAGE TO THE NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE  
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1984

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TWO YEARS AGO I STOOD BEFORE YOU ON A COLD AND BLUSTERING DAY AND RAISED MY HAND SO THE CHIEF JUSTICE COULD SWEAR ME INTO THIS GREAT OFFICE.

ON THAT OCCASION I TOLD YOU THAT WE WOULD FACE TOGETHER "A TIME OF GREAT TESTING FOR NEW JERSEY AND ITS GOVERNMENT."

WE FEARED A HOST OF PROBLEMS LED BY THE WORST ECONOMIC TIMES TO FACE THIS NATION SINCE THE GREAT DEPRESSION.

NOW IN THIS MY SECOND REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE STATE I CAN TELL YOU NOT ONLY THAT WE HAVE WEATHERED THE STORM BUT THAT WE HAVE EMERGED WITH A FRESH NEW BREEZE IN OUR SAILS. WE ARE MATCHING OR SURPASSING OUR NEIGHBORING STATES. BUT BEING FIRST TODAY IS NOT ENOUGH FOR TOMORROW.

WE NOW HAVE A FURTHER TASK WE MUST PLAN FOR OUR FUTURE PROSPERITY. THE STATE OF THE STATE IS GOOD. WE HAVE BUILT THE FOUNDATION. IT IS TIME TO SET OUR SIGHTS ON THE HORIZON.

TO BRING JOBS TO THIS STATE WE HAVE REDUCED TAXES ON BUSINESS, OFFERD LOW INTEREST LOANS AND PROMOTED THE STATE AGGRESSIVELY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OUR HISTORY.

AS PART OF OUR EFFORT WE HAVE LAUNCHED TWO MAJOR PROGRAMS TO TRAIN DISPLACED WORKERS, THE ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED AND THE WORKING POOR.

IN ADDITION WE HAVE LAUNCHED THE LARGEST HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR PROGRAM IN OUR STATE'S HISTORY. THIS YEAR WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED THAT THE YEARS OF STANDING BEHIND OTHER STATES FOR FEDERAL HIGHWAY FUNDS ARE OVER, AND THAT THE TIME HAS PASSED WHEN ROADS REMAIN UNBUILT --- WHILE FEDERAL FUNDS ALLOCATED TO NEW JERSEY REMAIN UNCLAIMED.

IN THIS FISCAL YEAR WE ARE SPENDING \$451 MILLION TO IMPROVE OUR ROADS --- PROJECTS WHICH HAD BEEN DELAYED FOR YEARS. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASSURE BUSINESSMEN --- JOB CREATORS --- THAT IF THEY LOCATE OR EXPAND IN NEW JERSEY THEY WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE THEIR GOODS.

THE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK STILL DOES NOT EXIST, DESPITE THE CRYING NEED FOR SUCH A FUND, DESPITE THE NATIONAL PRAISE FOR MY PROPOSAL, DESPITE THE FACT THAT SEVERAL LEADERS OF THIS GOVERNMENT HAVE TESTIFIED IN WASHINGTON ABOUT ITS MANY BENEFITS, AND DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING A BILL TO EMULATE IT.

I CHALLENGE THIS LEGISLATURE EITHER TO IMPROVE ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, OR TO APPROVE IT. BUT DON'T SIT ON IT. THE FURTHER YOU ALLOW OUR ROADS, BRIDGES, WATERWAYS AND SEWERS TO DETERIORATE, THE MORE IT WILL COST TO REPAIR THEM. AND IF YOU CHOOSE TO IGNORE THE PROBLEM AND BURY YOUR HEADS IN THE SAND, YOU ARE LIKELY TO FIND THE INFRASTRUCTURE CRUMBLING ABOUT YOUR EARS.

A SOUND PHYSICAL FOUNDATION IS A BASIC REQUIREMENT FOR A SOUND ECONOMY.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE REMEMBER THAT IN SPITE OF THE CONTINUING RECOVERY, THERE ARE STILL THOSE IN OUR STATE WHO WANT TO WORK AND WHO STILL CANNOT FIND JOBS.

WE WILL NEVER BE SATISFIED UNTIL EVERY NEW JERSEY CITIZEN WILLING TO WORK IS ABLE TO GET A DECENT JOB AND EARN A DECENT SALARY. IF THIS IS TO HAPPEN WE MUST TURN OUR ATTENTION TO OUR CITIES. THEY HAVE NOT SHARED IN MUCH OF OUR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND YET I BELIEVE THAT IF WE ARE TO PROSPER AS A STATE WE CANNOT ABANDON OUR CITIES SEVERAL OF LAST YEAR'S INITIATIVES WERE AIMED PARTICULARLY AT OUR CITIES. IN PARTICULAR I CONGRATULATE YOUR PASSAGE OF THE URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE BILL. I WOULD URGE OUR UNITED STATES' CONGRESS TO FOLLOW NEW JERSEY'S LEAD.

IN THIS ADMINISTRATION WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH OUR VARIOUS CITIES TRYING TO MAXIMIZE THEIR STRENGTHS. IN NEWARK WE OUR MAKING PROGRESS ON DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT CENTERED AROUND THE GATEWAY COMPLEX. IN CAMDEN AND JERSEY CITY WE ARE WORKING WITH THE WATERFRONTS.

THE CORPORATION WOULD BE MADE UP OF BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEMBERS, MEMBERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH THE PROBLEMS OF OUR CITIES AND WHO CAN BRING SOME UNDERSTANDING TO THESE PROBLEMS.

BY ESTABLISHING SUCH A CORPORATION, WE COULD TURN OUR COLLECTION OF GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO SOLVE URBAN PROBLEMS INTO A FORCEFUL, COMPREHENSIVE URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY --- A STRATEGY TARGETED TO MEET THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL CITIES.

FINALLY THERE IS ONE CITY WITH SPECIAL URBAN PROBLEMS. CASINO GAMBLING WITH ITS IMMENSE PROFITS HAS YET TO FULFILL ITS PROMISE TO ATLANTIC CITY. I URGE YOU TO ACT PROMPTLY ON OUR REINVESTMENT CREDIT PROPOSAL SO THAT PROMISE CAN BE KEPT.

LEGAL GAMING DOES NOT MEAN THAT ANY OF US MAY TRIFLE OR PLAY GAMES WITH THE LIFE OF A CITY AND ITS PEOPLE.

IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT FOR ALL OUR CITIZENS THAT OUR GOVERNMENT OPERATE EFFECTIVELY AND THAT THOSE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES WHO ARE TRULY EXCEPTIONAL BE SINGLED OUT AND REWARDED.

IN THAT REGARD I HOPE TO WORK IN THE COMING YEAR WITH OUR PUBLIC EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES TO INCREASE THE INCENTIVE FOR EXCELLENT JOB PERFORMANCE. LET ME APPEAL TO YOU AGAIN FOR CIVIL SERVICE REFORM. THE LAWS HAVE NOT CHANGED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE 1908. THIS IS NOT A PARTISAN ISSUE GOVERNORS MEYNER, HUGHES, CAHILL AND BYRNE ALL AGREE. WE CAN RUN GOVERNMENT BETTER AND WE CAN SAVE TAXPAYERS MONEY --- BUT WE NEED THE BILL.

SINCE CIVIL SERVICE LAWS WERE WRITTEN WE HAVE FOUGHT TWO WORLD WARS, EMERGED AS A SUPER POWER, AND GROWN DRAMATICALLY AS A STATE. THIS STAGNATION IN CIVIL SERVICE IS A DISGRACE. IT IS ALSO RIDICULOUS. THIS LEGISLATURE CAN BE THE AGENT OF REFORM. IT WOULD BE A LASTING GIFT TO NEW JERSEY.

WE WILL CAPITALIZE ON THIS PROGRESS THIS YEAR. OUR SECOND NEW PRISON, SOUTHERN STATE TWO, WILL OPEN NEXT MONTH. WORK WILL CONTINUE ON THE NEW MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON IN CAMDEN, AND GROUND WILL BE BROKEN AFTER A DECADE OF DELAY FOR A 1,000-BED FACILITY IN NEWARK THAT WILL HOUSE MANY URBAN INMATES CLOSER TO THEIR HOMES, WHILE PROVIDING A SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC BOOST FOR THE CITY AND FOR THE NEWARK RESIDENTS WHO WILL RECEIVE PREFERENCE FOR THE JOBS THAT PRISON WILL CREATE.

CRIME WAS DOWN IN NEW JERSEY LAST YEAR FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW.

I BELIEVE THE LEGISLATURE DESERVES SUBSTANTIAL CREDIT FOR THAT FACT, BECAUSE I BELIEVE THE TOUGHER LAWS YOU ENACTED ACCOUNT FOR PART OF THAT DROP. PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT ARE THE PACKAGE OF BILLS YOU PASSED, AND I SIGNED TO DEAL MORE STERNLY WITH JUVENILE CRIMINALS.



I MUST SAY, HOWEVER, THAT I AM SADLY DISSAPPOINTED AT YOUR ACTIONS OR LACK OF THEM, LAST NIGHT, THAT SPELLED DEFEAT FOR SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LEGISLATION TO BE CONSIDERED DURING THE LAST LEGISLATIVE TERM.

DRUNK DRIVING IS ONE OF THE DEADLIEST AFFLICTIONS TO PLAGUE OUR SOCIETY.

YOU BEGAN TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM LAST YEAR. POSITIVE ACTION ON BILLS TO PROHIBIT OPEN CONTAINERS OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN AUTOMOBILES, AND TO MAKE A BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVEL OF POINT-ONE-OH (.10) PROOF OF "PER SE" DRUNKENESS WERE EXCELLENT FIRST STEPS.

I HAD HIGH HOPES BEFORE LAST NIGHT THAT 200TH SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE WOULD END WITH A TRULY DISTINGUISHED RECORD ON DEALING WITH THIS TERRIBLE SOCIAL ILL.

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I WANT NEW JERSEY TO BE KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE NATION AS THE  
STATE WHICH WILL NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, TOLERATE THE  
DRUNKEN DRIVER.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT, WORKING TOGETHER, WE CANNOT DEVISE A SYSTEM WHICH WILL PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE INNOCENT AT LEAST AS WELL AS THE RIGHTS OF THE CRIMINAL!

FINALLY, IN THIS AREA, I WANT TO URGE YOU TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO UNDERTAKE A GREATER DEGREE OF LONG-TERM PLANNING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

I BELIEVE THAT THE CRIMINAL DISPOSITION COMMISSION COULD HELP IN THIS PLANNING. THE COMMISSION COULD HELP THE GOVERNOR, AND THE LEGISLATURE, IDENTIFY CRITICAL ISSUES FACING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN A COORDINATED BUT BROAD-BASED FASHION. IT COULD PERFORM THE KIND OF ANALYSIS THAT LEADS TO BETTER DECISION-MAKING AND BETTER INTERNAL PLANNING.

IN 1983, AFTER A LOT OF HARD WORK AND COMPROMISE, WE MADE THE FIRST PROGRESS IN YEARS IN THE AREA OF AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE REFORM. THE BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW ARE EXPECTED TO SAVE THE AVERAGE MOTORIST AS MUCH AS \$150 WHEN ALL THE PROVISIONS TAKE EFFECT.

THERE REMAINS, HOWEVER, MUCH TO BE DONE IF WE ARE REALLY INTERESTED IN SERVING THE BEST INTERESTS OF NEW JERSEY MOTORISTS. I ASKED YOU LAST YEAR FOR A MEDICAL FEE SCHEDULE TO CONTROL THE UNLIMITED MEDICAL COSTS NOW ASSOCIATED WITH AUTO INSURANCE. I ASK YOU AGAIN TO PASS SUCH A LAW.

I ASKED YOU, AS DID MY PREDECESSOR, FOR A VERBAL THRESHOLD ON TORT LIABILITY, AND I ASK FOR IT AGAIN.

LAST YEAR WE PROVED THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST CAN WIN OUT OVER PRIVATE INTERESTS. THIS YEAR I WILL ASK YOU TO EXTEND THAT LESSON AND COMPLETE THE BUSINESS OF AUTO INSURANCE REFORM.

BUT IF WE ARE TO COMPLETE THE ACTUAL CLEANUP OF THE NATION'S AND THE STATE'S WORST SITES, WE MUST BOTH REAUTHORIZE AND ENLARGE SUPERFUND. NOW THAT WE HAVE A CLEARER IDEA OF THE TASK BEFORE US, THIS IS A MORE URGENT PRIORITY THAN EVER.

NEW JERSEY'S U.S. SENATORS, BILL BRADLEY AND FRANK LAUTENBERG, HAVE INTRODUCED A BILL THAT WOULD EXTEND THE LIFE AND INCREASE THE SIZE OF SUPERFUND. ALL OF US WHO CALL OURSELVES NEW JERSEYANS SHOULD UNITE BEHIND THIS BILL AND WORK FOR ITS PASSAGE. PERSONALLY, I COMMEND OUR TWO SENATORS FOR TAKING THE LEAD ON THIS LEGISLATION, AND I STAND READY TO ASSIST THEM IN ANY WAY I CAN IN WORKING FOR ITS PASSAGE.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE PLENTY OF WORK FOR US HERE IN THE STATE. WE MUST APPROACH THE SITING OF NEW HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES IN THE MOST PROFESSIONAL AND DISPASSIONATE WAY, WITH THE SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC OUR PRIMARY CONCERN. IN THIS REGARD, I WOULD ASK YOUR FURTHER SUPPORT FOR THE HAZARDOUS WASTE SITING COMMISSION.

ACCORDINGLY, IN THE COMING YEAR, I PROPOSE THAT WE UNDERTAKE SEVERAL INITIATIVES TO PREVENT UNSAFE LEVELS OF EXPOSURE.

FIRST, DESPITE RECENT FEDERAL ACTIVITY THAT HAS RAISED THE QUESTION OF PRE-EMPTION OF STATE STATUTES, WE MUST FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE ACTION WE TOOK LAST YEAR IN PASSING NEW JERSEY'S RIGHT TO KNOW LAW AND MOVE FORWARD STRONGLY TO IMPLEMENT AND PERFECT OF THAT RIGHT. AS YOU KNOW, WE RECENTLY FILED SUIT WITH OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES IN FEDERAL COURT TO CHALLENGE THE RIGHT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT REGULATIONS WHICH ARE WEAKER THAN OURS.

IN THE TIME PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE LABELING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THE LEGISLATION, WE SHOULD WORK WITH ALL INTERESTED PARTIES TO DEVELOP SOUND, EFFECTIVE REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE LAW, AND TO RESOLVE ANY SPECIFIC PROBLEMS THAT REMAIN OUTSTANDING.

SOME ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES, SUCH AS HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL, ATTRACT ATTENTION AND LITERALLY DEMAND A RESPONSE. IN NEW JERSEY, WE HAVE A RECORD OF PROGRESS ON THESE ISSUES BOTH AT THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE LEVEL.

ON SOME ISSUES, HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO CAUSE FOR SELF-CONGRATULATION. SOLID WASTE IS SUCH AN ISSUE. FOR YEARS WE HAVE RUN AWAY FROM THE HARD CHOICES REQUIRED FOR A SOLUTION. SOLID WASTE HAS BEEN IN CRISIS IN NEW JERSEY FOR TEN YEARS. IN THE LAST ONE AND A HALF YEARS, WE'VE HAD TO MAKE A SERIES OF HARD DECISIONS TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE CRISIS. BUT WE'VE ALSO BEEN WORKING IN A BI-PARTISAN EFFORT ON SOLUTIONS.

THESE SOLUTIONS ARE NOW MORE VITAL THAN EVER. IN JUST A FEW YEARS, THE ISSUE WILL NO LONGER BE WHICH COUNTY TAKES WHICH GARBAGE; INSTEAD, IT WILL BE WHERE TO FIND ROOM TO PUT ANY OF THE GARBAGE --- EVEN IF WE ALL AGREE TO SHARE THE BURDEN EQUALLY.

GARBAGE IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS OF THE 80'S IN NEW JERSEY. WE CAN NO LONGER WALK AWAY FROM THE PROBLEM; IT HAS ARRIVED ON OUR DOORSTEP. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THERE WILL BE A HIGH COST TO TAKING A RESPONSIBLE APPROACH TO SOLID WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY. MY CONTENTION IS THAT WE MUST BE PREPARED TO BEAR IT, FOR THE COSTS OF TAKING AN IRRESPONSIBLE APPROACH WILL BE MUCH GREATER. NOBODY LIKES GARBAGE. EVERYONE CREATES IT. EVERYONE MUST COPE WITH IT.

INCREASINGLY I WORRY ABOUT THE CAPABILITIES OF THE OCEAN TO ABSORB ADDITIONAL DREDGE SPOILS. THE SHORE IS ONE OF NEW JERSEY'S TREASURES; WE CANNOT IGNORE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS DUMPING FOR THE FUTURE OF AN AREA THAT MEANS SO MUCH TO SO MANY. AS ASSEMBLYMAN VILLANE HAS POINTED OUT SO OFTEN --- OUR FISHING AND TOURISM INDUSTRIES ARE FAR TOO IMPORTANT TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE AND TO OUR ECONOMY TO BE PUT AT RISK. THE E.P.A. IS CONSIDERING A MOVE TO REQUIRE THAT MATERIAL FROM NEW YORK HARBOR BE DUMPED AT A SITE 106 MILES OUT. THIS IS ESSENTIAL TO THE CONTINUED HEALTH OF THE JERSEY SHORE, AND I CALL UPON THE E.P.A. TO ADOPT THIS BILL.



IT IS AN AXIOM THAT ANY DECENT SOCIETY IS JUDGED BY THE WAY IT CARES FOR ITS LESS FORTUNATE MEMBERS. AS JOHN KENNEDY REMINDED US AS HE BEGAN HIS ALL TOO BRIEF TERM IN OFFICE, "IF A FREE SOCIETY CANNOT HELP THE MANY WHO ARE POOR, IT CANNOT SAVE THE FEW WHO ARE RICH."

NEW JERSEY HAS A LONG AND WELL-DESERVED REPUTATION FOR CARING FOR ITS SICK, ITS ELDERLY AND ITS HANDICAPPED. I AM PROUD THAT DURING MY ADMINISTRATION WE HAVE EXTENDED THIS TRADITION AND I INTEND TO CONTINUE IT AS LONG AS I AM GOVERNOR.

SINCE I TOOK OFFICE THE LIFELINE UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HAS BEEN INCREASED 25 PERCENT TO \$200. PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE AGED AND DISABLES HAS RISEN 53 PERCENT IN THE LAST TWO YEARS. AND THE PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS HAS INCREASED FROM \$225 TO \$250 DURING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT THESE TWO GROUPS WILL BE AS "CATCHERS IN THE RYE" --- CATCHING CHILDREN AT THE TOP OF THE CLIFF INSTEAD OF STRETCHING OUT A SO-CALLED SAFETY NET AFTER THEY FALL.

OUR DIVISION ON MENTAL RETARDATION IS WORKING WITH PRIVATE GROUPS, DEVELOPING STRATEGIES TO PREVENT RETARDATION THROUGH BETTER NUTRITION, EDUCATION AND TREATMENT. I WILL SOON APPOINT AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL RETARDATION TO DEVELOP A STATEWIDE PREVENTION PLAN TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF MENTAL RETARDATION.

ONE OF THE LEAST HUMANE ASPECTS OF THE MANNER IN WHICH WE HAVE, IN THE PAST, AIDED THE NEEDY, IS THAT WHICH TORE FAMILIES APART AND FORCED THOSE RECEIVING OUR ASSISTANCE TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES AND THEIR LOVED ONES AND MOVE INTO INSTITUTIONS.

THESE HIGHER RATES, IN SOME CASES AS MUCH AS \$2,000 A MONTH, ARE EXACTED AS THE PRICE OF MEDICAID ADMISSION.

IT IS A VICIOUS PRACTICE, AND SHOULD BE STOPPED.

ACCORDINGLY, I WILL ASK YOUR SUPPORT THIS COMING YEAR FOR LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD MAKE IT A CRIME FOR A NURSING HOME OPERATOR TO REQUIRE A MEDICAID-ELIGIBLE PATIENT OR THAT PATIENT'S FAMILY, TO SIGN A PRIVATE PAY CONTRACT AS A CONDITION OF ADMISSION. FAMILIES MUST NO LONGER BE PUSHED TO THE BRINK OF FINANCIAL RUIN IN ORDER TO OBTAIN CARE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES.

THIS PAST YEAR I CREATED A SPECIAL CABINET COMMISSION APPROACH TO THE PROGRAMS WHICH AID OUR OLDER CITIZENS. THE SUCCESS OF THIS SPECIAL COMMISSION IN DRAWING TOGETHER ALL THE VARIOUS RESOURCES WHICH WE CAN TARGET TOWARD THE NEEDS OF OUR SENIORS HAS LED ME TO DIRECT THAT THE COMMISSION CONTINUE TO MEET ON A REGULAR BASIS.

SIMILARLY, I SUPPORTED AND SIGNED LEGISLATION TO FUND CANCER RESEARCH FROM CIGARETTE TAX MONIES.

NOW, I BELIEVE THE TIME HAS COME TO EXTEND THIS PRINCIPLE INTO ANOTHER AREA FROM WHICH THE STATE DERIVES SUBSTANTIAL MONIES: CASINO GAMBLING. COMPLUSIVE GAMBLING IS A DISEASE WITH PERSONAL AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS EVERY BIT AS TERRIBLE AS ALCOHOLISM. IT CAN DESTROY FAMILIES, DESTROY INDIVIDUALS AND WEAKEN THE FABRIC OF OUR SOCIETY.

AS YOU KNOW, OUR CONSTITUTION CURRENTLY DOES NOT ALLOW CASINO REVENUES TO BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE. I BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH PROGRAMS ARE A LEGITIMATE USE OF THOSE FUNDS, AND, CONSEQUENTLY, I WILL PROPOSE THIS YEAR AN AMENDMENT TO OUR CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW A PORTION OF THE CASINO REVENUE FUND TO BE USED FOR THE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF COMPULSIVE GAMBLERS, AND I STRONGLY URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS PROPOSAL.

I HAVE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES WHY IT MUST BE OUR PRESSING CONCERN --- ONE WHICH WE IGNORE AT OUR OWN PERIL. MOST NEW JERSEYANS AGREE WITH ME THAT THERE ARE PROBLEMS IN OUR SCHOOLS. SOME SAY THERE ARE NONE.

I ASK IF THEY ARE WILLING TO STAKE THE FUTURES OF THEIR CHILDREN ON THE STATUS QUO.

THIS FALL, I GAVE YOU MY BLUEPRINT FOR EDUCATIONAL REFORM, WITH A THREE-POINT PROGRAM TO REVISE TEACHER CERTIFICATION, TEACHER SALARIES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS. THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN PRAISED AROUND THE COUNTRY, AS A SOUND APPROACH TO EDUCATION. NEW JERSEY IS NOW REGARDED AS A NATIONAL LEADER. THE CURRENT SECRETARY OF EDUCATION ENDORSES OUR PROPOSALS, AND A FORMER SECRETARY OF EDUCATION WILL LEAD ONE OF OUR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

I HAVE DIRECTED THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO COME FORWARD WITH A WORKABLE PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING THIS IMPORTANT URBAN INITIATIVE NO LATER THAN MARCH OF THIS YEAR, SO WE CAN BEGIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THIS WILL BE AN AMBITIOUS PROPOSAL, BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT WE MUST FACE DIRECTLY THE PROBLEMS OF URBAN SCHOOLS. THERE ARE MODELS OF SUCCESSFUL URBAN PROGRAMS AROUND THE COUNTRY, LESSONS WHICH WE CAN APPLY HERE IN NEW JERSEY. THE POINT IS THAT URBAN EDUCATION DESERVES OUR ATTENTION. AND IT WILL GET IT.

TODAY, LET US BUILD ON THE PROGRESS WE BEGAN LAST YEAR.

TODAY, LET US PLOT A STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE.

WE MUST BEGIN BY FORMING A NEW PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN HIGHER EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA MUST COME TOGETHER. IN 1982 I APPOINTED THE GOVERNOR'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION, A BI-PARTISAN GROUP MADE UP OF LEADERS FROM OUR TOP COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, BUSINESS, LABOR AND GOVERNMENT.

LAST WEEK, THE COMMISSION FORWARDED ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO ME. CHIEF AMONG THEM IS A CALL FOR THE APPROVAL OF AN \$80 MILLION HIGHER EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY BOND ISSUE TO HELP FINANCE THE INITIATIVES, REFORMS, AND IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY TO CARRY NEW JERSEY WITH STRENGTH INTO THE AGE OF HIGH TECHNOLOGY.

I CALL UPON YOU TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PLACE THIS BOND ISSUE ON THE BALLOT IN 1984.

CREATING THESE FOUR CENTERS NOT ONLY WILL THRUST NEW JERSEY INTO A NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLE IN EACH OF THESE RESEARCH AREAS, IT WILL SERVE AS THE KEY STIMULUS FOR THE CREATION OF JOBS IN AREAS OF EMERGING GROWTH.

IN ADDITION TO THESE CENTERS, I RECOMMEND A PROGRAM OF GRANTS TO STIMULATE RESEARCH ON SPECIFIC SUBJECTS OF CONCERN TO INDUSTRY.

I WILL PROPOSE IN MY FISCAL YEAR 1985 BUDGET THAT THE STATE FUND A SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR RETRAINING AND IMPROVING THE KNOWLEDGE OF TEACHERS ALREADY CERTIFIED IN MATH AND SCIENCE, AND FOR TRAINING TEACHERS CERTIFIED IN OTHER AREAS TO HELP US MEET THE MATH/SCIENCE TEACHER SHORTAGE. THESE FUNDS WOULD ALSO BE USED TO RETRAIN COLLEGE FACULTY TO TEACH COMPUTER SCIENCE, ANOTHER AREA IN WHICH A SEVERE SHORTAGE EXISTS.



FINALLY, I RECOMMEND THAT WE REQUIRE OF ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS, COURSES DESIGNED TO FOSTER TECHNOLOGICAL LITERACY AND TO ACHIEVE SOME MINIMUM LEVEL OF PROFICIENCY WITH COMPUTERS. TO COMPETE IN TOMORROW'S WORLD, OUR STUDENTS MUST BE TRAINED IN TOMORROW'S TECHNOLOGY.

THIS CANNOT BE THE LIMITS OF OUR EDUCATIONAL MISSION. THERE ARE OTHER OBJECTIVES NEEDED FOR SURVIVAL IN THIS COMPLEX WORLD --- PARTICULARLY THOSE WE SEEK IN A LIBERAL EDUCATION: TO DEVELOP CREATIVE, INDEPENDENT AND CRITICAL THOUGHT. WE MUST INCLUDE A HUMAN DIMENSION IN OUR LEARNING. IT IS THIS DIMENSION THAT JACQUES ~~BAR~~ZUN WOULD SAY TURNS GRAMMAR INTO LITERATURE, A LIST OF DATES INTO HISTORY, AND A SHEET OF FORMULAS INTO THE NATIONAL SCIENCES.

SO, IN ADDITION TO A PROGRAM TO UPGRADE TECHNOLOGICAL TRAINING IN NEW JERSEY, I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A PROGRAM TO ENHANCE EDUCATION IN THE HUMANITIES.

--- THEY WOULD ASSIST OUR UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN BRINGING VISITING SCHOLARS AND ARTISTS TO THEIR CAMPUSES FOR A SEMESTER OR A YEAR, THEREBY ENRICHING THE INTELLECTUAL ENVIRONMENT AND EXPOSING STUDENTS TO LEADERS IN THEIR FIELDS OF STUDY;

--- THEY WOULD SUPPORT FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES AND FOREIGN TRAVEL BY STUDENTS. TRAINING IN OTHER LANGUAGES AND IN UNDERSTANDING OTHER CULTURES IS SADLY LACKING IN AMERICAN EDUCATION; AND

FINALLY, WE MUST DEMAND MORE FROM THE STUDENTS AT OUR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IF THEY ARE TO EARN THE REPUTATIONS WE FEEL THEY DESERVE. I MEAN BY THIS THAT WE SHOULD STIFFEN THE STANDARDS FOR REGULAR ADMISSION INTO OUR FOUR YEAR BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS, THAT WE SHOULD ADOPT MORE RIGOROUS REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION FROM THESE PROGRAMS, AND THAT WE SHOULD BROADEN THE CURRICULUM WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE GRADUATION.

URBAN STUDENTS HISTORICALLY HAVE ALSO BEEN UNDER-REPRESENTED IN FIELDS REQUIRING A HIGH LEVEL OF PROFICIENCY IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS.

I ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN DEVELOPING PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE MINORITY STUDENTS TO PURSUE THESE FIELDS IN THE PRE-COLLEGIATE YEARS TO HELP ADDRESS THAT UNDER-REPRESENTATION.

## CONCLUSION

ONE OF THIS CENTURY'S GREATEST THINKERS, FLEEING PERSECUTION AND VIOLENCE, SOUGHT REFUGE ON OUR SHORES AND FOUND IT IN OUR STATE. HE MADE HIS HOME NOT FAR FROM HERE IN PRINCETON, WHERE HE WAS FREE TO THINK AND FREE TO SPEAK WHAT HE THOUGHT.

AND ON THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN AMERICA, THIS WISEST OF MEN SAID THAT "KNOWLEDGE MUST CONTINUALLY BE RENEWED IN CEASELESS EFFORT, IF IT IS NOT TO BE LOST."

THAT MAN WAS ALBERT EINSTEIN --- ONE OF THE GREATEST MINDS IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. HE SAW THAT KNOWLEDGE STANDS LIKE A STATUE ON A DESERT CLIFF. IT IS IN CONSTANT PERIL OF BEING BURIED UNDER THE SANDS OF TIME. IT IS SAVED AND RENEWED ONLY BY WILLING HANDS, WHICH SERVE THAT THE MARBLE MAY SHINE, UNCOVERING KNOWLEDGE ANEW.

I BELIEVE IN KEEPING NEW JERSEY FIRST AND FOREMOST, BUT FIRST PLACE IS A DEMANDING POSITION, AND THE EYES OF THE NATION WILL BE UPON NEW JERSEY AS SHE LEADS. LET US TOGETHER LEAD NEW JERSEY WITH WISDOM AND DIGNITY, TO A MORE PERFECT FREEDOM.

NOW IS NEW JERSEY'S TIME --- TO TAKE PRIDE IN HER PAST, TAKE ACTION IN THE PRESENT AND TAKE THOUGHT FOR HER FUTURE. JOIN ME IN MY DREAMS FOR OUR STATE! 1984 IS NO LONGER A THREATENING NIGHTMARE. TODAY, IT IS A PROMISE TO NEW JERSEY --- ABOUT TO BE FULFILLED.

THANK YOU.