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Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

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RELEASE: January 10, 2000

Gov. Christie Whitman today conditionally vetoed the following pieces of legislation. The Governor's conditional veto messages are attached.

A-2386, sponsored by Assembly Members Alex DeCroce (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Richard A. Merkt (R-Morris) and Senators Henry P. McNamara (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Anthony R. Bucco (R-Morris), which would have directed the Commissioner of Transportation, upon application from certain municipalities, to require a railroad company or entity providing rail passenger service to sound a bell only at the grade crossing.

S-1326, sponsored by Senators Henry P. McNamara (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Donald T. DiFrancesco (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Assembly Member Nicholas R. Felice (R-Bergen/Passaic), which would have appropriated \$2.5 million from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Protection for dredging the New Jersey portion of Greenwood Lake. The lake is located in Passaic County and in Orange County, N. Y.

A-3410, sponsored by Assembly Members Bob Smith (D-Middlesex/Somerset/Union) and Leonard Lance (R-Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer) and Senator John A. Lynch (D-Middlesex/Somerset/Union), which would have authorized municipalities to establish grant programs to provide relief to certain real property owners for damages from floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters.

A-2773, sponsored by Assembly Members Kevin J. O'Toole (R-Essex/Union) and David W. Wolfe (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Senators Robert J. Martin (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Bernard F. Kenny, Jr. (D-Hudson), which would have provided additional State aid to support full-day kindergarten programs in charter schools located in Abbott districts.

S-456, sponsored by Senator Ronald L. Rice (D-Essex) and Assembly Members Craig A. Stanley (D-Essex) and Wilfredo Caraballo (D-Essex), which would have increased the number of public members of the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA).

SCS for S-1196, 1197 and 1221, sponsored by Senators Louis F. Kosco (R-Bergen), Wayne R. Bryant (D-Camden/Gloucester) and Garry J. Furnari (D-Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Assembly Members Neil M. Cohen (D-Union) and Paul DiGaetano (R-Bergen/Essex/Passaic), which would have amended the Check Cashing Regulatory Act, and made it a crime to cash a check for consideration without a license. It would have also required the revocation of a license under certain circumstances and would have

amended the Casino Control Act to require casino licensees to file a suspicious transaction report.

A-1951, sponsored by Assembly Members Carol R. Murphy (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Alex DeCroce (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Senators Robert J. Martin (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Anthony R. Bucco (R-Morris), which would have provided for an unlimited length of stay in free-standing special care nursing facilities for certain Medicaid recipients.

A-1647, sponsored by Assembly Members Guy R. Gregg (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Kenneth C. LeFevre (R-Atlantic) and Senators Robert E. Littell (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex), which would have permitted self-employed business partners to be eligible for workers' compensation.

S-1533, sponsored by Senator Gerald Cardinale (R-Bergen) and Assemblyman Nicholas R. Felice (R-Bergen/Passaic), which would have prohibited health insurers that provide prescription benefits from imposing different terms and conditions based on type of pharmacy.

S-1506, sponsored by Senators Donald T. DiFrancesco (R-Middlesex/Somerset and Union) and Byron M. Baer (D-Bergen) and Assembly Members Nicholas R. Felice (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson), which would have allowed for a hospital to be designated as a children's hospital based on criteria of the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions.

S-286, sponsored by Senators John A. Girgenti (D-Passaic) and Louis F. Kosco (R-Bergen) and Assembly Members Michael Patrick Carroll (R-Morris) and Nicholas J. Sacco (D-Bergen/Hudson), which would have eased the conditions for trial of certain juvenile offenders as adults. The bill would have given prosecutors the discretion to elect to waive certain serious juvenile cases to adult court without requiring judicial approval.

A-2640, sponsored by Assembly Members Paul Kramer (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Barbara Wright (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Senator Peter A. Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex), which would have authorized criminal background checks for youth agency employees and volunteers.