



NEW JERSEY STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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January 10, 2018

The Honorable Chris Christie
Governor of New Jersey
Office of the Governor
Post Office Box 001
Trenton, New Jersey 0862

Dear Governor Christie:

On behalf of the New Jersey State Bar Association, I urge your support in signing into law S3247/A3891 because it creates critical opportunities for minority owners of businesses. The bill represents the ideals you outlined in your farewell speech yesterday – it creates businesses and job opportunities for New Jerseyans. That it does so for our most valued resources – veterans, the disabled, and the LGBT communities makes it that much more important for New Jersey.

We support this legislation because it creates procurement opportunities, including legal services, for these most vulnerable communities. When signed into law, New Jersey would join California, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, several federal agencies, and over one-third of Fortune 500 companies that employ this type of program. The rationale for this bill is simple: the state's economy cannot achieve its full potential without the full participation of every citizen of New Jersey. Greater diversity among suppliers encourages greater innovation and competition. Greater competition lowers bid prices. Lower bid prices results in millions in taxpayer savings across the state.

You outlined a series of initiatives under your Administration that created businesses and job growth. "Those are the actions of an Administration that treated our citizens' money as if it was our own. Those are actions with real consequences for each of our constituents." This is another one of those actions.

We urge you to sign this bill into law to continue your legacy for smart business growth in New Jersey. And we thank you for your service to New Jersey.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Hille", is written over a large, light blue circular stamp or watermark.

Robert B. Hille, Esq.
President