To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 3082 (First Reprint) without my approval.

This bill addresses vehicle license cost recovery fees, which are imposed by motor vehicle rental companies on their customers in order to recover costs related to licensing, titling, registration, inspection, and plating of their motor vehicles. The bill explicitly authorizes motor vehicle rental companies to charge such fees and requires that the amount of the fee reflect the proportional part of all licensing, titling, registration, inspection, and plating fees incurred by the company and attributable to the rental. The bill also requires that the vehicle license cost recovery fee be identified separately in the rental contract.

Current law does not prohibit motor vehicle rental companies from collecting vehicle license cost recovery fees, and, indeed, many motor vehicle rental companies operating in New Jersey already collect such fees. This legislation has the potential to create confusion, both because such a fee is not currently prohibited by law and because the bill does not make clear that the fee would not be mandated by the State. In fact, given the detailed requirements in the bill, if this bill were to become law, it is possible a consumer would assume that the State of New Jersey is imposing a fee, which it does not and I will not.
Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 3082 (First Reprint) without my approval.

Respectfully,

[seal] /s/ Chris Christie Governor

Attest:

/s/ Charles B. McKenna
Chief Counsel to the Governor