

September 9, 2013

**ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 3222
(Third Reprint)**

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 3222 (Third Reprint) without my approval.

This bill creates a host of new regulations purporting to deter theft in the scrap metal industry. Specifically, the bill requires that scrap metal operators maintain a record of receipts for all scrap metal purchases. Additionally, the bill increases the scope of records that these businesses must maintain and constricts their purchasing options. Furthermore, the bill requires operators of scrap metal businesses to electronically submit records maintained on the purchase or receipt of scrap metal.

Deterring scrap metal theft in New Jersey is a laudable objective. However, I am concerned that significantly increasing recordkeeping and reporting requirements on scrap metal businesses will impose substantial expenses and administrative burdens on operators in this State. Businesses that abide by the law, especially our State's small business community, should not be penalized with overly burdensome requirements. Imposing additional hurdles on legitimate small businesses may deter law-abiding scrap metal businesses that contribute to our State's economy from operating in New Jersey.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 3222 (Third Reprint) without my approval.

Respectfully,

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie
Governor

Attest:

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