

September 9, 2013

**ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 4249**  
**(First Reprint)**

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 4249 (First Reprint) without my approval.

This bill would designate October 16, 2013, as an "early voting day" for both the special election to fill New Jersey's United States Senate vacancy and for the general election scheduled for November 5, 2013. Effectively, this bill would have resulted in the elimination of the October 16 special election because all ballots cast on October 16 would be considered "early," and thus New Jersey voters would be unable to elect a new United States Senator until the completion of the general election in November.

New Jersey voters deserve to have their voices heard in the United States Senate as soon as practicable, which is why I called for a special election in October. I cannot support legislation that would require the citizens of New Jersey to wait to choose their representation in the United States Senate.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 4249 (First Reprint) without my approval.

[seal]

Respectfully,  
/s/ Chris Christie  
Governor

Attest:

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