

January 13, 2014

**ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE FOR
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 321**

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Assembly Substitute for Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 321 with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill seeks to establish a pilot program for the protection of certain domestic violence victims. The bill would require the Attorney General and the State Parole Board to create a new and novel electronic monitoring system in Ocean County that would track persons who have already violated the terms of a Court-ordered domestic violence restraining order. The system envisioned by this bill would also track the location of the victim and provide twenty-four hour monitoring to alert the victim when the attacker's signal is in the vicinity. The bill would appropriate \$1 million and create new fees and penalties applied State-wide to be used to offset the cost of the Ocean County pilot program.

I applaud the Legislature's attention to both the need to protect victims of domestic violence, and the possibilities for using new technologies to create safer communities. Indeed, I have called for wholesale changes to our system of criminal justice that would provide our Courts with much needed flexibility to detain and hold the most dangerous and violent offenders. I welcome proposals like this bill that call for enhanced monitoring and supervision of defendants released back onto our streets. As noted in the bill, however, the technology necessary to provide the monitoring, warning, and round-the-clock supervision does not appear to be currently available to law enforcement. Given that limitation, appropriate steps should first be taken to evaluate the feasibility of

implementing such a robust monitoring system, and any alternatives that may exist for improved oversight of serious offenders in all counties of our State. Therefore, I recommend that the Attorney General conduct a thorough evaluation of the availability of the technology needed to create and implement this monitoring system and report back to me in no more than 120 days. With the Legislature's swift concurrence with these recommendations, this expeditious but thorough study will be in hand by the Spring. Together, my Administration, members of the law enforcement community, and the Legislature, will then be able to make an informed decision before the end of the fiscal year this July as to whether this monitoring system, or a suitable alternative to protect victims of domestic violence, can be implemented. This collaborative approach will ensure that our mutual goal of protecting victims of domestic violence is pursued responsibly and feasibly this year.

Therefore, I herewith return Assembly Substitute for Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 321 and recommend that it be amended as follows:

<u>Page 2, Title, Lines 1-4:</u>	Delete in their entirety and insert "An Act establishing a study of technology for the tracking of domestic violence offenders, designated "Lisa's Law.""
<u>Page 2, Section 1, Lines 9-12:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 2, Section 2, Lines 14-47:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 3, Section 2, Lines 1-15:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 3, Section 3, Lines 17-34:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 3, Section 4, Lines 36-39:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 3, Section 5, Lines 41-45:</u>	Delete in their entirety

<u>Page 4, Section 5, Lines 1-23:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 4, Section 6, Lines 25-46:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 5, Section 6, Lines 1-6:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 5, Section 7, Lines 8-29:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 5, Section 8, Lines 31-39:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 5, Section 9, Lines 41-47:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 6, Section 9, Lines 1-45:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 7, Section 9, Lines 1-46:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 8, Section 9, Lines 1-47:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 9, Section 9, Lines 1-47:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 10, Section 9, Lines 1-47:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 11, Section 9, Lines 1-28:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 11, Section 10, Lines 30-36:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 11, Section 11, Line 38:</u>	Delete "11." and insert "1."
<u>Page 11, Section 11, Line 38:</u>	Delete "first day of the sixth month" and insert "120th day"
<u>Page 11, Section 11, Line 41:</u>	Delete "and the Legislature"
<u>Page 11, Section 11, Lines 42-47:</u>	Delete in their entirety and insert "technology to monitor the location of dangerous domestic violence offenders and their victims so that the victims may be warned when their attacker is in the vicinity. The Attorney General shall immediately establish a study group to identify and investigate issues related to the availability of the technology that will inform the final report."
<u>Page 12, Section 11, Lines 1-3:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 12, Section 12, Lines 5-11:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 12, Section 13, Lines 13-18:</u>	Delete in their entirety
<u>Page 12, Section 14, Line 20:</u>	Delete "14." and insert "2."
<u>Page 12, Section 14, Line 21:</u>	Delete "fourth annual"

Page 12, Section 14, Lines 21-22:

Delete "and Legislature
pursuant to section 12 of
this act"

Respectfully,

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Christopher S. Porrino

Chief Counsel to the Governor