

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS of 1999

CHAPTER: 78

NJSA: 45 :15-12.8

(Real Estate - Transactions - Escrow Funds)

BILL NO: S1372 (Substituted for A745)

SPONSOR(S): Cafiero and Allen

DATE INTRODUCED: September 24, 1998

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY: ~~~~

SENATE: Commerce

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY: March 15, 1999

SENATE: February 25, 1999

DATE OF APPROVAL: April 30, 1999

THE FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: Original

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

S1372

SPONSORS STATEMENT: *Yes*

(Begins on page 2 of original bill)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: *No*

SENATE: *Yes*

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: *No*

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: *No*

SPONSORS STATEMENT: *Yes*
(Bill and Sponsor's Statement identical to S1372)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:
ASSEMBLY: *Yes*
(Identical to Senate Statement for S1372)
SENATE: *No*

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: *No*

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: *No*

GOVERNOR'S ACTIONS

VETO MESSAGE: *No*

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: *Yes*

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

*To check for circulating copies contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library
(609) 278-2640 ext. 102 or refdesk@njstatelib.org*

REPORTS: *No*

HEARINGS: *No*

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: *No*

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 78, *approved April 30, 1999*

Senate, No. 1372

1 **AN ACT** concerning the acceptance of certain funds by real estate
2 brokers and amending P.L.1993, c.51.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. Section 45 of P.L.1993, c.51 (C.45:15-12.8) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 45. Every real estate licensee who, in the performance of any of the
10 activities described in R.S.45:15-3, receives any monies of others as
11 a representative of a broker acting as an escrow agent or as the
12 temporary custodian of the funds of others in a real estate transaction,
13 shall only accept the monies if they are in the form of cash or a
14 negotiable instrument payable to the broker through whom the
15 individual is licensed, or such other form as the commission may
16 prescribe by rule. The licensee shall, immediately upon receipt of the
17 funds, account for and deliver the funds to the broker for deposit into
18 the escrow or trust account maintained by the broker, or for such
19 other disposition as is required by the escrow agreement under the
20 terms of which the funds were provided to the licensee.

21 (cf: P.L.1993, c.51, s.45)

22

23 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

24

25

26

STATEMENT

27

28 This bill authorizes the New Jersey Real Estate Commission to
29 promulgate rules enabling real estate brokers and their agents to
30 accept moneys to be held by them as escrow agents or as temporary
31 custodians of the funds in real estate transactions in forms other than
32 cash or negotiable instrument. Through such rulemaking the
33 commission might authorize brokers to, in limited circumstances,
34 accept credit card charges for such payments.

35

36

37

38

39 Allows Real Estate Commission to promulgate rules concerning
40 acceptance of escrow funds in forms other than cash or check.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

SENATE, No. 1372

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 1998

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES S. CAFIERO

District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

Senator DIANE ALLEN

District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Asselta, Gibson and Corodemus

SYNOPSIS

Allows Real Estate Commission to promulgate rules concerning acceptance of escrow funds in forms other than cash or check.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/1999)

S1372 CAFIERO, ALLEN

2

1 AN ACT concerning the acceptance of certain funds by real estate
2 brokers and amending P.L.1993, c.51.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
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13 shall only accept the monies if they are in the form of cash or a
14 negotiable instrument payable to the broker through whom the
15 individual is licensed, or such other form as the commission may
16 prescribe by rule. The licensee shall, immediately upon receipt of the
17 funds, account for and deliver the funds to the broker for deposit into
18 the escrow or trust account maintained by the broker, or for such
19 other disposition as is required by the escrow agreement under the
20 terms of which the funds were provided to the licensee.
21 (cf: P.L.1993, c.51, s.45)

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30 accept moneys to be held by them as escrow agents or as temporary
31 custodians of the funds in real estate transactions in forms other than
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33 commission might authorize brokers to, in limited circumstances,
34 accept credit card charges for such payments.

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1372

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 30, 1998

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1372.

This bill authorizes the New Jersey Real Estate Commission to promulgate rules enabling real estate brokers and their agents to accept moneys to be held by them as escrow agents or as temporary custodians of the funds in real estate transactions in forms other than cash or negotiable instruments. Through such rulemaking the commission might authorize brokers to, in limited circumstances, accept credit card or debit charges or electronic funds transfers for such payments.

ASSEMBLY, No. 745

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1998 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman NICHOLAS ASSELTA

District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

Assemblyman JOHN C. GIBSON

District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)

SYNOPSIS

Allows Real Estate Commission to promulgate rules concerning acceptance of escrow funds in forms other than cash or check.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



A745 ASSELTA, GIBSON

2

1 AN ACT concerning the acceptance of certain funds by real estate
2 brokers and amending P.L.1993, c.51.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 45 of P.L.1993, c.51 (C.45:15-12.8) is amended to read
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14 negotiable instrument payable to the broker through whom the
15 individual is licensed, or such other form as the commission may
16 prescribe by rule. The licensee shall, immediately upon receipt of the
17 funds, account for and deliver the funds to the broker for deposit into
18 the escrow or trust account maintained by the broker, or for such
19 other disposition as is required by the escrow agreement under the
20 terms of which the funds were provided to the licensee.
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31 custodians of the funds in real estate transactions in forms other than
32 cash or negotiable instrument. Through such rulemaking the
33 commission might authorize brokers to, in limited circumstances,
34 accept credit card charges for such payments.

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ASSEMBLY CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND REGULATED
PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 745

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 15, 1998

The Assembly Consumer Affairs and Regulated Professions Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 745.

This bill authorizes the New Jersey Real Estate Commission to promulgate rules enabling real estate brokers and their agents to accept moneys to be held by them as escrow agents or as temporary custodians of the funds in real estate transactions in forms other than cash or negotiable instrument. Through such rulemaking the commission might authorize brokers to, in limited circumstances, accept credit card charges for such payments.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 1998 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004
TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Gene Herman
609-777-2600

RELEASE: April 30, 1999

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following pieces of legislation:

ACS for A-1209, sponsored by Assembly Members Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Francis J. Blee (R-Atlantic), provides a supplemental appropriation to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs (MAVA) in the amount of \$50,000 for a pilot program to transport homebound veterans to and from Veterans Administration (VA) clinic sites and from the clinics to VA hospitals. The clinic sites are in Hackensack, Trenton, Fort Dix, Cape May, Elizabeth and Vineland.

A-505, sponsored by Assembly Member Gerald H. Zecker (R- Essex/Passaic), provides for parity among New Jersey depository institutions with respect to lending practices. The State Bank Parity Act of 1981 was intended to permit even competition among New Jersey lending institutions (banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions) by permitting each lending institution to charge a rate of interest permitted to any other lending institution. Recent court decisions have construed the act to be limited only to the periodic percentage rate of interest charged on an outstanding balance. The bill provides that parity applies all other fees and charges such as, but not limited to, late charges and collection fees.

A-1277, sponsored by Assembly Members Alex DeCroce (R- Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Carol J. Murphy (R- Essex/Morris/Passaic), permits a board of education to use school facilities for child care services that are provided by either the board, a board approved sponsor, or a licensed child care program. The child care programs allowed under the bill will be available before or after regular school hours for any school age child who attends school within the school district. The bill supplements current law which permits school facilities to be used only for education purposes, library purposes, election purposes, the holding of social, recreational or civic meetings that are approved by the board or the holding of meetings or events where admission fees are charged, subject to the approval of the board.

A-1581, sponsored by Assembly Members Barbara Wright (R- Mercer/Middlesex), John C. Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Senators John O. Bennett (R-Monmouth) and Joseph F. Vitale (D-Middlesex), allows advanced practice nurses to order and prescribe controlled dangerous substances under limited circumstances to patients in end-of-life situations or with terminal illnesses. Under previous law, nurse practitioners had no authority to prescribe controlled dangerous

substances.

A-1396, sponsored by Assembly Members Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth) and Tom Smith (R-Monmouth), repeals the \$2 per bushel surcharge on clams harvested through the depuration clam relay program in Monmouth County. Although the bill repeals the surcharge, it does not repeal the Monmouth County Clam Depuration and Relay Program Fund. The last two state budgets have included a \$150,000 appropriation to the fund.

S-271, sponsored by Senators Wynona M. Lipman (D-Essex/Union) and Richard J. Codey (D-Essex), and Assembly Members Guy F. Talarico (R-Bergen) and Rose Marie Heck (R-Bergen), changes the legal doctrine of retreat regarding the use of deadly force with respect to domestic violence committed by cohabitant spouses or cohabitant household members in a shared dwelling. The doctrine of retreat is part of the law of self-defense. In New Jersey, a person may use deadly force in self-defense if that force is necessary to protect against death or serious bodily injury. One of the exceptions to this rule is that a person cannot use deadly force if the use of such force can be safely avoided by retreating from the situation. The bill deletes the provision that a person must retreat from a cohabitant in the person's home.

S-534, sponsored by Senator Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex) and Assembly Member Barbara Wright (R-Mercer/Middlesex), permanently designates the first Sunday in May as "Loyal Heart Award Day" in New Jersey in order to honor and provide public recognition to caregivers of persons with disabilities. The Loyal Heart Award was initiated in 1994 by Elayne Hyman Risley, chairwoman of the Middlesex County Chapter Coalition on Women and Disabilities, to recognize the contributions made by caregivers for persons with disabilities.

S-993, sponsored by Senators Robert E. Littell (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Peter A. Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Assembly Members Leonard Lance (R-Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer) and Francis J. Blee (R-Atlantic), appropriates \$4,532,000 from the Jobs, Education and Competitiveness Fund to the Commission on Higher Education for construction projects at various county colleges. The bill allocates \$226,000 to Essex County College for the reconfiguration of instructional space of the gymnasium and appropriates \$306,000 to Essex County College for the improvement of the Martin Luther King Library. It also appropriates \$2 million to Hudson County College for the acquisition and renovation of the Culinary Arts Institute and \$1 million to Passaic County Community College for an addition to the academic facility.

S-1064, sponsored by Senators Andrew R. Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington/Camden) and Assembly Members Gerald H. Zecker (R-Essex/Passaic) and James W. Holzapfel (R- Monmouth/Ocean), exempts real estate licensees from the consumer fraud law under certain

circumstances. Under the bill, if a real estate licensee communicates any false, misleading or deceptive information provided to him by or on behalf of the seller of the real estate, but the real estate licensee had no actual knowledge and made a reasonable and diligent inquiry to determine the accuracy of the information, the exemption will apply. The real estate licensee can still be held liable for compensatory damages under the act and is not exempt for fraudulent actions made with an intent to deceive.

S-1369, sponsored by Senators John O. Bennett (R-Monmouth) and Joseph A. Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Assembly members Tom Smith (R- Monmouth), Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth), John S. Wisniewski (D- Middlidesex) and James W. Holzapfel (R-Monmouth/Ocean), establishes the use of a firearm or imitation firearm against a law enforcement officer as a crime of the third degree. A third- degree crime is punishable by a three-to-five year term of imprisonment or a \$15,000 fine or both.

S-1372, sponsored by Senator James S. Cafiero (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Assembly Members Nicholas Asselta (R- Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and John C. Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland), authorizes the New Jersey Real Estate Commission to promulgate rules concerning the forms of monies that real estate brokers and their agents may hold as escrow agents or as temporary custodians of the funds in real estate transactions. Under previous law, real estate brokers could only accept monies in the form of cash or negotiable instruments, such as checks and money orders.

S-1461, sponsored by Senator Robert W. Singer (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Assembly Members Joseph R. Malone (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Melvin Cottrell (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean), appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs for the Korean Veterans' Memorial Fund. The Fund was created in July, 1996 by legislation that also created the Korean Veterans' Memorial Committee. The Fund will be used to pay for the construction and maintenance of the memorial, which will be built in Atlantic City. It is anticipated that \$2 million will be needed to build and maintain the memorial.

S-1467, sponsored by Senator Raymond J. Zane (R-Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem) and Assembly Members Charles "Ken" Zisa (D-Bergen) and Michael Patrick Carroll (R-Morris), provides that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court be valid for two years. Under previous law, writs of execution against personal property issued by the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court were valid for only one year.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

LAWS of 1999

CHAPTER: 80

NJSA: 2A:18-27

(Writs of execution - valid for two years)

BILL NO: S1467 (Substituted for A2653)

SPONSOR(S): Zane

DATE INTRODUCED: October 22, 1998

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY: ~~~~

SENATE: Judiciary

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY: March 29, 1999

SENATE: January 12, 1999

DATE OF APPROVAL: April 30, 1999

THE FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: Original

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

S1467

SPONSORS STATEMENT: *Yes*

(Begins on page 2 of original bill)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: *No*

SENATE: *Yes*

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: *No*

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: *No*

A2653

SPONSORS STATEMENT: *Yes*
(Bill and Sponsor's Statement identical to S1467)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:
ASSEMBLY: *Yes*
(Identical to Senate Statement for S1467)
SENATE: *No*

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: *No*

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: *No*

GOVERNOR'S ACTIONS

VETO MESSAGE: *No*

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: *Yes*

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

*To check for circulating copies contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library
(609) 278-2640 ext. 102 or refdesk@njstatelib.org*

REPORTS: *Yes*

974.90 C866 1996
New Jersey. Supreme Court. Committee on Special Civil Part Practice
Report, January 31, 1996
(Pt. IV. A. -- Legislation)

or see:
143 N.J.L.J. 658-663 (February 19, 1996)

HEARINGS: *No*

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: *No*

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 80, *approved April 30, 1999*

Senate, No. 1467

1 AN ACT concerning writs of execution and amending N.J.S.2A:18-27.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. N.J.S.2A:18-27 is amended to read as follows:

7 2A:18-27. A writ of execution issued out of the Superior Court,
8 Law Division, Special Civil Part shall remain valid and effective for the
9 purpose of a levy, and shall be operative and effective against any
10 goods and chattels levied upon, for **[one year]** two years from the
11 date of its issuance, unless sooner satisfied. Thereafter it shall be void.
12 The officer shall make a return to the clerk of the proceedings had by
13 him on such writ forthwith after a satisfaction thereof, otherwise
14 within **[one year]** two years.

15 (cf: P.L.1991, c.91, s.49.)

16

17 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

18

19

20

STATEMENT

21

22 Under current law, writs of execution against personal property
23 issued by the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court are valid for a
24 period of one year. This one year limitation can cause problems when,
25 for example a judgment-debtor agrees to pay a judgment in
26 installments that last longer than one year. In such situations, the writ
27 of execution is returned partially satisfied at the end of the year and
28 the judgment creditor has to request and pay for the issuance of a new
29 writ. This causes added expense for litigants and added work for
30 court personnel. Implementing a recommendation of the Supreme
31 Court's Committee on the Special Civil Part, this bill would provide
32 that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be valid for a
33 period of two years.

34

35

36

37

38 Provides that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be
39 valid for two years.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

SENATE, No. 1467

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 22, 1998

Sponsored by:

Senator RAYMOND J. ZANE

District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Zisa and Carroll

SYNOPSIS

Provides that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be valid for two years.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/30/1999)

1 AN ACT concerning writs of execution and amending N.J.S.2A:18-27.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. N.J.S.2A:18-27 is amended to read as follows:

7 2A:18-27. A writ of execution issued out of the Superior Court,
8 Law Division, Special Civil Part shall remain valid and effective for the
9 purpose of a levy, and shall be operative and effective against any
10 goods and chattels levied upon, for **[one year]** two years from the
11 date of its issuance, unless sooner satisfied. Thereafter it shall be void.
12 The officer shall make a return to the clerk of the proceedings had by
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26 installments that last longer than one year. In such situations, the writ
27 of execution is returned partially satisfied at the end of the year and
28 the judgment creditor has to request and pay for the issuance of a new
29 writ. This causes added expense for litigants and added work for
30 court personnel. Implementing a recommendation of the Supreme
31 Court's Committee on the Special Civil Part, this bill would provide
32 that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be valid for a
33 period of two years.

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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1467

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 16, 1998

The Senate Judiciary Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1467.

Under current law, writs of execution against personal property issued by the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court are valid for a period of one year. This one year limitation can cause problems when, for example a judgment-debtor agrees to pay a judgment in installments that last longer than one year. In such situations, the writ of execution is returned partially satisfied at the end of the year and the judgment creditor has to request and pay for the issuance of a new writ. This causes added expense for litigants and added work for court personnel. Implementing a recommendation of the Supreme Court's Committee on the Special Civil Part, this bill would provide that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be valid for a period of two years.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2653

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 23, 1998

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CHARLES "KEN" ZISA

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman MICHAEL PATRICK CARROLL

District 25 (Morris)

SYNOPSIS

Provides that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be valid for two years.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



A2653 ZISA, CARROLL

2

1 AN ACT concerning writs of execution and amending N.J.S.2A:18-27.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

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28 the judgment creditor has to request and pay for the issuance of a new
29 writ. This causes added expense for litigants and added work for
30 court personnel. Implementing a recommendation of the Supreme
31 Court's Committee on the Special Civil Part, this bill would provide
32 that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be valid for a
33 period of two years.

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Matter underlined thus is new matter.

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2653

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 7, 1999

The Assembly Judiciary Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2653.

Under current law, writs of execution against personal property issued by the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court are valid for a period of one year. This one year limitation can cause problems when, for example a judgment-debtor agrees to pay a judgment in installments that last longer than one year. In such situations, the writ of execution is returned partially satisfied at the end of the year and the judgment creditor has to request and pay for the issuance of a new writ. This causes added expense for litigants and added work for court personnel. Implementing a recommendation of the Supreme Court's Committee on the Special Civil Part, this bill would provide that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part be valid for a period of two years.

Office of the Governor
NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004
TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Gene Herman
609-777-2600

RELEASE: April 30, 1999

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following pieces of legislation:

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A-505, sponsored by Assembly Member Gerald H. Zecker (R- Essex/Passaic), provides for parity among New Jersey depository institutions with respect to lending practices. The State Bank Parity Act of 1981 was intended to permit even competition among New Jersey lending institutions (banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions) by permitting each lending institution to charge a rate of interest permitted to any other lending institution. Recent court decisions have construed the act to be limited only to the periodic percentage rate of interest charged on an outstanding balance. The bill provides that parity applies all other fees and charges such as, but not limited to, late charges and collection fees.

A-1277, sponsored by Assembly Members Alex DeCroce (R- Essex/Morris/Passaic) and Carol J. Murphy (R- Essex/Morris/Passaic), permits a board of education to use school facilities for child care services that are provided by either the board, a board approved sponsor, or a licensed child care program. The child care programs allowed under the bill will be available before or after regular school hours for any school age child who attends school within the school district. The bill supplements current law which permits school facilities to be used only for education purposes, library purposes, election purposes, the holding of social, recreational or civic meetings that are approved by the board or the holding of meetings or events where admission fees are charged, subject to the approval of the board.

A-1581, sponsored by Assembly Members Barbara Wright (R- Mercer/Middlesex), John C. Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Joseph V. Doria, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Senators John O. Bennett (R-Monmouth) and Joseph F. Vitale (D-Middlesex), allows advanced practice nurses to order and prescribe controlled dangerous substances under limited circumstances to patients in end-of-life situations or with terminal illnesses. Under previous law, nurse practitioners had no authority to prescribe controlled dangerous

substances.

A-1396, sponsored by Assembly Members Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth) and Tom Smith (R-Monmouth), repeals the \$2 per bushel surcharge on clams harvested through the depuration clam relay program in Monmouth County. Although the bill repeals the surcharge, it does not repeal the Monmouth County Clam Depuration and Relay Program Fund. The last two state budgets have included a \$150,000 appropriation to the fund.

S-271, sponsored by Senators Wynona M. Lipman (D-Essex/Union) and Richard J. Codey (D-Essex), and Assembly Members Guy F. Talarico (R-Bergen) and Rose Marie Heck (R-Bergen), changes the legal doctrine of retreat regarding the use of deadly force with respect to domestic violence committed by cohabitant spouses or cohabitant household members in a shared dwelling. The doctrine of retreat is part of the law of self-defense. In New Jersey, a person may use deadly force in self-defense if that force is necessary to protect against death or serious bodily injury. One of the exceptions to this rule is that a person cannot use deadly force if the use of such force can be safely avoided by retreating from the situation. The bill deletes the provision that a person must retreat from a cohabitant in the person's home.

S-534, sponsored by Senator Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex) and Assembly Member Barbara Wright (R-Mercer/Middlesex), permanently designates the first Sunday in May as "Loyal Heart Award Day" in New Jersey in order to honor and provide public recognition to caregivers of persons with disabilities. The Loyal Heart Award was initiated in 1994 by Elayne Hyman Risley, chairwoman of the Middlesex County Chapter Coalition on Women and Disabilities, to recognize the contributions made by caregivers for persons with disabilities.

S-993, sponsored by Senators Robert E. Littell (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Peter A. Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex) and Assembly Members Leonard Lance (R-Warren/Hunterdon/Mercer) and Francis J. Blee (R-Atlantic), appropriates \$4,532,000 from the Jobs, Education and Competitiveness Fund to the Commission on Higher Education for construction projects at various county colleges. The bill allocates \$226,000 to Essex County College for the reconfiguration of instructional space of the gymnasium and appropriates \$306,000 to Essex County College for the improvement of the Martin Luther King Library. It also appropriates \$2 million to Hudson County College for the acquisition and renovation of the Culinary Arts Institute and \$1 million to Passaic County Community College for an addition to the academic facility.

S-1064, sponsored by Senators Andrew R. Ciesla (R-Monmouth/Ocean) and Diane B. Allen (R-Burlington/Camden) and Assembly Members Gerald H. Zecker (R-Essex/Passaic) and James W. Holzapfel (R- Monmouth/Ocean), exempts real estate licensees from the consumer fraud law under certain

circumstances. Under the bill, if a real estate licensee communicates any false, misleading or deceptive information provided to him by or on behalf of the seller of the real estate, but the real estate licensee had no actual knowledge and made a reasonable and diligent inquiry to determine the accuracy of the information, the exemption will apply. The real estate licensee can still be held liable for compensatory damages under the act and is not exempt for fraudulent actions made with an intent to deceive.

S-1369, sponsored by Senators John O. Bennett (R-Monmouth) and Joseph A. Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Assembly members Tom Smith (R- Monmouth), Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth), John S. Wisniewski (D- Middlidesex) and James W. Holzapfel (R-Monmouth/Ocean), establishes the use of a firearm or imitation firearm against a law enforcement officer as a crime of the third degree. A third- degree crime is punishable by a three-to-five year term of imprisonment or a \$15,000 fine or both.

S-1372, sponsored by Senator James S. Cafiero (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Assembly Members Nicholas Asselta (R- Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and John C. Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland), authorizes the New Jersey Real Estate Commission to promulgate rules concerning the forms of monies that real estate brokers and their agents may hold as escrow agents or as temporary custodians of the funds in real estate transactions. Under previous law, real estate brokers could only accept monies in the form of cash or negotiable instruments, such as checks and money orders.

S-1461, sponsored by Senator Robert W. Singer (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Assembly Members Joseph R. Malone (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Melvin Cottrell (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean), appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs for the Korean Veterans' Memorial Fund. The Fund was created in July, 1996 by legislation that also created the Korean Veterans' Memorial Committee. The Fund will be used to pay for the construction and maintenance of the memorial, which will be built in Atlantic City. It is anticipated that \$2 million will be needed to build and maintain the memorial.

S-1467, sponsored by Senator Raymond J. Zane (R-Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem) and Assembly Members Charles "Ken" Zisa (D-Bergen) and Michael Patrick Carroll (R-Morris), provides that writs of execution issued by the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court be valid for two years. Under previous law, writs of execution against personal property issued by the Special Civil Part of the Superior Court were valid for only one year.