LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS of 1999

CHAPTER: 71

NJSA: 46:15-8

(Shore Protection Fund -- raise annual credit)

BILL NO: A1676 (Substituted for S688)

SPONSOR(S): Gibson and Corodemus

DATE INTRODUCED: February 19, 1998

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY: Environment; Appropriations

SENATE: Environment; Budget and Appropriations

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY: February 18, 1999 SENATE: December 17, 1998

DATE OF APPROVAL: April 28, 1999

THE FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: Yes2nd Reprint

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

A1676

SPONSORS STATEMENT: Yes (Begins on page 3 of original bill)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: Yes

May 7, 1998 July 27, 1998

SENATE: Yes

December 10, 1998 (Budget and Appropriations)

December 10, 1998 (Environment)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: *No*

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S688

SPONSORS STATEMENT: Yes (Begins on page 3 of original bill)

(Bill and Sponsor's statement identical to A1676)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: No **SENATE:** Yes

December 10, 1998 (Budget and Appropriations)

(Identical to Senate Budget Committee Statement for A1676)

December 10, 1998 (Environment)

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 71, approved April 28, 1999 Assembly, No. 1676 (Second Reprint)

1 AN ACT increasing the annual amount deposited in the Shore 2 Protection Fund from the realty transfer fee and amending

3 P.L.1968, c.49.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 6 of New Jersey:

7

- 8 1. Section 4 of P.L.1968, c.49 (C.46:15-8) is amended to read as 9 follows:
- 4. The proceeds of the fees collected by the county recording officer, as authorized by this act, shall be accounted for and remitted to the county treasurer. An amount equal to 28.6% of the proceeds from the first \$1.75 for each \$500.00 of consideration or fractional
- part thereof recited in the deed so collected shall be retained by the
- county treasurer for the use of the county and the balance shall be paid
- to the State Treasurer for the use of the State; provided however, that
- on and after the tenth day following a certification by the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
- 19 Treasury pursuant to subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.1992, c.148
- 20 (C.46:15-10.2), 100.0% of the proceeds from the first \$0.50 for each
- 21 \$500.00 of consideration or fractional part thereof recited in the deed
- so collected shall be retained by the county treasurer for the use of the
- 23 county and no amount shall be paid to the State Treasurer for the use
- 24 of the State. Payments shall be made to the State Treasurer on the
- 25 tenth day of each month following the month of collection. Amounts,
- 26 not in excess of [\$15,000,000] $^{1}[\$25,000,000]$ $^{2}[\$20,000,000]$
- 27 \$25,000,000², paid during the State fiscal year to the State Treasurer
- 28 from the payment of fees collected by the county recording officer
- 29 other than the additional fee of \$0.75 for each \$500.00 of
- 30 consideration or fractional part thereof recited in the deed in excess of
- 31 \$150,000.00 shall be credited to the "Shore Protection Fund" created
- 32 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.148 (C.13:19-16.1), in the
- 33 manner established under that section. All amounts paid to the State
- Treasurer in payment of the additional fee of \$0.75 for each \$500.00
- of consideration or fractional part thereof recited in the deed in excess
- of \$150,000.00 shall be credited to the Neighborhood Preservation
- Nonlapsing Revolving Fund established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.222
- 38 (C.52:27D-301 et al.), in the manner established under section 20
- 39 thereof (C.52:27D-320).
- 40 (cf: P.L.1992, c.148, s.4)

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted July 27, 1998.

² Senate SEN committee amendments adopted December 10, 1998.

A1676 [2R]

1	2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply only to
2	fiscal years beginning after the enactment of this act.
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4	
5	·
6	
7	Increases amount annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund to
8	\$25 million.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1676

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 19, 1998

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN C. GIBSON
District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)
Assemblyman STEVE CORODEMUS
District 11 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Connors, Luongo, Malone, Bodine, LeFevre, Blee, Azzolina, T.Smith, Asselta, Assemblywoman Farragher, Assemblymen Moran, Wolfe, Roberts, Kelly, O'Toole, Holzapfel and Suliga

SYNOPSIS

Increases amount annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund to \$25 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/31/1998)

1 **AN ACT** increasing the annual amount deposited in the Shore 2 Protection Fund from the realty transfer fee and amending 3 P.L.1968, c.49.

4 5

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

7

- 8 1. Section 4 of P.L.1968, c.49 (C.46:15-8) is amended to read as 9 follows:
- 4. The proceeds of the fees collected by the county recording 10 11 officer, as authorized by this act, shall be accounted for and remitted 12 to the county treasurer. An amount equal to 28.6% of the proceeds 13 from the first \$1.75 for each \$500.00 of consideration or fractional 14 part thereof recited in the deed so collected shall be retained by the 15 county treasurer for the use of the county and the balance shall be paid 16 to the State Treasurer for the use of the State; provided however, that 17 on and after the tenth day following a certification by the Director of 18 the Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the Treasury pursuant to subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.1992, c.148 19 (C.46:15-10.2), 100.0% of the proceeds from the first \$0.50 for each 20 21 \$500.00 of consideration or fractional part thereof recited in the deed 22 so collected shall be retained by the county treasurer for the use of the 23 county and no amount shall be paid to the State Treasurer for the use 24 of the State. Payments shall be made to the State Treasurer on the 25 tenth day of each month following the month of collection. Amounts, not in excess of [\$15,000,000] \$25,000,000, paid during the State 26 27 fiscal year to the State Treasurer from the payment of fees collected by the county recording officer other than the additional fee of \$0.75 28 29 for each \$500.00 of consideration or fractional part thereof recited in 30 the deed in excess of \$150,000.00 shall be credited to the "Shore 31 Protection Fund" created pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.148 32 (C.13:19-16.1), in the manner established under that section. All 33 amounts paid to the State Treasurer in payment of the additional fee 34 of \$0.75 for each \$500.00 of consideration or fractional part thereof 35 recited in the deed in excess of \$150,000.00 shall be credited to the 36 Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund established

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2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply only to fiscal years beginning after the enactment of this act.

established under section 20 thereof (C.52:27D-320).

pursuant to P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-301 et al.), in the manner

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

(cf: P.L.1992, c.148, s.4)

A1676 GIBSON, CORODEMUS

3

STATEMENT

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1

3 This bill would increase from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount 4 that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the 5 collection of realty transfer fees. New Jersey's coastal counties generate over half of the State's annual \$24.5 billion in tourism 6 revenues, with multiplier benefits throughout the region and the 7 nation. To ensure that the tourism industry continues to support the 8 9 hundreds of thousands of related jobs and associated local and State 10 tax revenues, it is essential that the beaches of the New Jersey Shore be protected and adequately replenished. The stable source of funding 11 established pursuant to P.L.1992, c.148 (i.e., the Shore Protection 12 13 Fund), was an important first step toward providing the resources 14 necessary to properly fund the costs of shore protection. Much of the 15 annual \$15 million appropriation from the Shore Protection Fund has 16 been used to meet federal matching fund requirements. However, for the past several years the President has recommended reductions in 17 federal funding for beach restoration projects. Although Congress has 18 restored funding for these projects, uncertainty over the future of 19 20 federal funding has created a need for increased funding at the State 21

ASSEMBLY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1676

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 7, 1998

The Assembly Environment Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1676.

This bill would increase from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the collection of realty transfer fees.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1676

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JULY 27, 1998

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1676, with committee amendments.

Assembly Bill No., 1676, as amended, increases from \$15 million to \$20 million the amount that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the collection of realty transfer fees.

The realty transfer fee is imposed on the recording of deeds transferring real property, calculated on the basis of the amount paid in the deed. The basic rate is \$1.75 for each \$500 of consideration, of which \$.50 is retained by the county and \$1.25 is the State share. Currently, the first \$15 million of the State share collected annually is credited to the Shore Protection fund. An additional fee of \$.75 for each \$500 of consideration is imposed for each \$500 of consideration in excess of \$150,000 per transfer; those amounts are credited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund for certain housing programs. Statutory provisions require that, unless the appropriate amounts are credited to Shore Protection Fund and the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and appropriated for the purposes of the funds, the imposition of the noncounty portions of the fee ceases.

FISCAL IMPACT:

For State Fiscal Year 1998, a year of comparatively high realty transfer fee collections, final collections are expected to be result in approximately \$28 million deposited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and approximately \$62 million collected as the State share, of which \$15 million has been credited to the Shore Protection Fund and \$47 million will be deposited to the General Fund.

This bill will not affect amounts collected, but will result in up to \$5 million more being credited to the Shore Protection Fund and that much less being deposited to the General Fund for fiscal years beginning after the enactment of the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments change the increase from a total dedication of \$25 million for Shore Protection to a total dedication of \$20 million.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[Second Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 1676

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 10, 1998

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1676 (2R).

This bill increases from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the collection of realty transfer fees.

The realty transfer fee is imposed on the recording of deeds transferring real property, calculated on the basis of the amount paid in the deed. The basic rate is \$1.75 for each \$500 of consideration, of which \$.50 is retained by the county and \$1.25 is the State share. Currently, the first \$15 million of the State share collected annually is credited to the Shore Protection Fund. An additional fee of \$.75 is imposed for each \$500 of consideration in excess of \$150,000 per transfer; those amounts are credited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund for certain housing programs. Statutory provisions require that, unless the appropriate amounts are credited to the Shore Protection Fund and the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and appropriated for the purposes of the funds, the imposition of the non-county portions of the fee ceases.

Under the 1992 law that established the Shore Protection Fund (N.J.S.A.13:19-16.1), moneys deposited in the fund are to be used for shore protection projects associated with the protection, stabilization, restoration or maintenance of the shore, including monitoring studies and land acquisition, consistent with the current New Jersey Shore Protection Master Plan, and may include the nonfederal share of any State-federal project. (Beginning July 1, 1999, the use of fund moneys must be in accordance with a priority list, developed by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and approved by the Legislature, that ranks shore protection projects under appropriate criteria established by the Commissioner.) The law also authorizes the Commissioner, subject to legislative appropriation, to allocate fund moneys for emergency shore protection projects in the event of storm or similar act of God. In addition, the law directs that 2% of the moneys annually deposited in the fund shall be appropriated to fund the Coastal Protection Technical Assistance Service, of which amount up to \$100,000 annually may be used to fund coastal engineering

research and development, to be conducted by Stevens Institute of Technology, at the request of State or local governmental entities.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 688.

FISCAL IMPACT:

For State Fiscal Year 1998, a year of comparatively high realty transfer fee collections, final collections are expected to result in approximately \$28 million being deposited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and approximately \$62 million being collected as the State share, of which \$15 million has been credited to the Shore Protection Fund and \$47 million is to be deposited to the General Fund.

This bill will not affect amounts collected, but will result in up to \$10 million more being credited to the Shore Protection Fund and that much less being deposited to the General Fund for fiscal years beginning after the enactment of the bill.

SENATE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 1676

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 10, 1998

The Senate Environment Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1676 (1R) with committee amendments.

Assembly Bill No. 1676 (1R), with committee amendments, increases from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the collection of realty transfer fees.

The realty transfer fee is imposed on the recording of deeds transferring real property, calculated on the basis of the amount paid in the deed. The basic rate is \$1.75 for each \$500 of consideration, of which \$.50 is retained by the county and \$1.25 is the State share. Currently, the first \$15 million of the State share collected annually is credited to the Shore Protection fund. An additional fee of \$.75 for each \$500 of consideration is imposed for each \$500 of consideration in excess of \$150,000 per transfer; those amounts are credited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund for certain housing programs. Statutory provisions require that, unless the appropriate amounts are credited to Shore Protection Fund and the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and appropriated for the purposes of the funds, the imposition of the noncounty portions of the fee ceases.

For State Fiscal Year 1998, a year of comparatively high realty transfer fee collections, final collections are expected to be result in approximately \$28 million deposited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and approximately \$62 million collected as the State share, of which \$15 million has been credited to the Shore Protection Fund and \$47 million will be deposited to the General Fund.

This bill will not affect amounts collected, but will result in up to \$10 million more being credited to the Shore Protection Fund and that much less being deposited to the General Fund for fiscal years beginning after the enactment of the bill.

The committee amendments would change the increase from a total

dedication of \$20 million for Shore Protection to a total dedication of \$25 million.

This bill, as amended, is identical to Senate Bill No. 688.

SENATE, No. 688

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 23, 1998

Sponsored by:

Senator JAMES S. CAFIERO
District 1 (Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland)
Senator WILLIAM L. GORMLEY
District 2 (Atlantic)

Cosponsored by:

Senators Kyrillos, Palaia, Connors, Ciesla, Bennett and Singer

SYNOPSIS

Increases amount annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund to \$25 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** increasing the annual amount deposited in the Shore 2 Protection Fund from the realty transfer fee and amending 3 P.L.1968, c.49.

4

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

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- 8 1. Section 4 of P.L.1968, c.49 (C.46:15-8) is amended to read as 9 follows:
- 4. The proceeds of the fees collected by the county recording 10 11 officer, as authorized by this act, shall be accounted for and remitted 12 to the county treasurer. An amount equal to 28.6% of the proceeds 13 from the first \$1.75 for each \$500.00 of consideration or fractional 14 part thereof recited in the deed so collected shall be retained by the 15 county treasurer for the use of the county and the balance shall be paid 16 to the State Treasurer for the use of the State; provided however, that 17 on and after the tenth day following a certification by the Director of 18 the Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the Treasury pursuant to subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.1992, c.148 19 (C.46:15-10.2), 100.0% of the proceeds from the first \$0.50 for each 20 21 \$500.00 of consideration or fractional part thereof recited in the deed 22 so collected shall be retained by the county treasurer for the use of the 23 county and no amount shall be paid to the State Treasurer for the use 24 of the State. Payments shall be made to the State Treasurer on the 25 tenth day of each month following the month of collection. Amounts, not in excess of [\$15,000,000] \$25,000,000, paid during the State 26 27 fiscal year to the State Treasurer from the payment of fees collected by the county recording officer other than the additional fee of \$0.75 28 29 for each \$500.00 of consideration or fractional part thereof recited in 30 the deed in excess of \$150,000.00 shall be credited to the "Shore 31 Protection Fund" created pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.148 32 (C.13:19-16.1), in the manner established under that section. All 33 amounts paid to the State Treasurer in payment of the additional fee 34 of \$0.75 for each \$500.00 of consideration or fractional part thereof

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2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply only to fiscal years beginning after the enactment of this act.

established under section 20 thereof (C.52:27D-320).

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

recited in the deed in excess of \$150,000.00 shall be credited to the

Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-301 et al.), in the manner

(cf: P.L.1992, c.148, s.4)

S688 CAFIERO, GORMLEY

3

STATEMENT

2

1

3 This bill would increase from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount 4 that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the 5 collection of realty transfer fees. New Jersey's coastal counties generate over half of the State's annual \$24.5 billion in tourism 6 revenues, with multiplier benefits throughout the region and the 7 8 nation. To ensure that the tourism industry continues to support the 9 hundreds of thousands of related jobs and associated local and State 10 tax revenues, it is essential that the beaches of the New Jersey Shore be protected and adequately replenished. The stable source of funding 11 established pursuant to P.L.1992, c.148 (i.e., the Shore Protection 12 13 Fund), was an important first step toward providing the resources 14 necessary to properly fund the costs of shore protection. Much of the 15 annual \$15 million appropriation from the Shore Protection Fund has 16 been used to meet federal matching fund requirements. However, for the past several years the President has recommended reductions in 17 federal funding for beach restoration projects. Although Congress has 18 restored funding for these projects, uncertainty over the future of 19 20 federal funding has created a need for increased funding at the State 21

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 688

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 10, 1988

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 688.

This bill increases from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the collection of realty transfer fees.

The realty transfer fee is imposed on the recording of deeds transferring real property, calculated on the basis of the amount paid in the deed. The basic rate is \$1.75 for each \$500 of consideration, of which \$.50 is retained by the county and \$1.25 is the State share. Currently, the first \$15 million of the State share collected annually is credited to the Shore Protection Fund. An additional fee of \$.75 is imposed for each \$500 of consideration in excess of \$150,000 per transfer; those amounts are credited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund for certain housing programs. Statutory provisions require that, unless the appropriate amounts are credited to the Shore Protection Fund and the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and appropriated for the purposes of the funds, the imposition of the non-county portions of the fee ceases.

Under the 1992 law that established the Shore Protection Fund (N.J.S.A.13:19-16.1), moneys deposited in the fund are to be used for shore protection projects associated with the protection, stabilization, restoration or maintenance of the shore, including monitoring studies and land acquisition, consistent with the current New Jersey Shore Protection Master Plan, and may include the nonfederal share of any State-federal project. (Beginning July 1, 1999, the use of fund moneys must be in accordance with a priority list, developed by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and approved by the Legislature, that ranks shore protection projects under appropriate criteria established by the Commissioner.) The law also authorizes the Commissioner, subject to legislative appropriation, to allocate fund moneys for emergency shore protection projects in the event of storm or similar act of God. In addition, the law directs that 2% of the moneys annually deposited in the fund shall be appropriated to fund the Coastal Protection Technical Assistance Service, of which amount up to \$100,000 annually may be used to fund coastal engineering research and development, to be conducted by Stevens Institute of Technology, at the request of State or local governmental entities.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill 1676 (2R).

FISCAL IMPACT:

For State Fiscal Year 1998, a year of comparatively high realty transfer fee collections, final collections are expected to result in approximately \$28 million being deposited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and approximately \$62 million being collected as the State share, of which \$15 million has been credited to the Shore Protection Fund and \$47 million is to be deposited to the General Fund.

This bill will not affect amounts collected, but will result in up to \$10 million more being credited to the Shore Protection Fund and that much less being deposited to the General Fund for fiscal years beginning after the enactment of the bill.

SENATE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 688

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 10, 1998

The Senate Environment Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 688.

This bill would increase from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount that is annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund from the collection of realty transfer fees. Much of the annual \$15 million appropriation from the Shore Protection Fund has been used to meet federal matching fund requirements. However, for the past several years the President has recommended reductions in federal funding for beach restoration projects. Although Congress has restored funding for these projects, uncertainty over the future of federal funding has created a need for increased funding at the State level.

The realty transfer fee is imposed on the recording of deeds transferring real property, calculated on the basis of the amount paid in the deed. The basic rate is \$1.75 for each \$500 of consideration, of which \$.50 is retained by the county and \$1.25 is the State share. Currently, the first \$15 million of the State share collected annually is credited to the Shore Protection fund. An additional fee of \$.75 for each \$500 of consideration is imposed for each \$500 of consideration in excess of \$150,000 per transfer; those amounts are credited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund for certain housing programs. Statutory provisions require that, unless the appropriate amounts are credited to Shore Protection Fund and the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and appropriated for the purposes of the funds, the imposition of the non-county portions of the fee ceases.

For State Fiscal Year 1998, a year of comparatively high realty transfer fee collections, final collections are expected to be result in approximately \$28 million deposited to the Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund and approximately \$62 million collected as the State share, of which \$15 million has been credited to the Shore Protection Fund and \$47 million will be deposited to the General Fund.

This bill will not affect amounts collected, but will result in up to \$10 million more being credited to the Shore Protection Fund and that much less being deposited to the General Fund for fiscal years beginning after the enactment of the bill.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1676 (1R) as amended by the committee.

PO BOX 004 TRENTON, NJ 08625

Office of the Governor NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor Wendi Patella 609-777-2600

RELEASE: April 28, 1999

Governor Whitman Signs Shore Protection Legislation, Teaches State History to Fourth Grade Class in Belmar

Gov. Christie Whitman today taught New Jersey history to a fourth grade class at the Belmar Elementary School in Belmar, keeping a promise to volunteerism that she made during her State of the State address in January. After discussing the legislative process with the students, Gov. Whitman signed a bill increasing the amount of the Shore Protection Fund to \$25 million each year.

"I made a promise to add to my commitment to volunteerism by teaching the New Jersey history and government curriculum in one fourth grade class every month," the Governor told a school assembly after finishing her stint in the classroom. "I have to comment on how well the class treated their substitute teacher!"

After speaking to the class, Gov. Whitman attended an assembly of all fourth and fifth graders, where she signed the shore protection legislation.

S-1676, sponsored by Assembly Members John Gibson (R-Cape May/Atlantic/ Cumberland) and Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth) and Senators James Cafiero (R- Cape May/Atlantic/ Cumberland) and William Gormley (R-Atlantic), increases from \$15 million to \$25 million the amount that is credited each year to the Shore Protection Fund. Monies for the fund come from realty transfer fees.

The Shore Protection Fund pays for beachfill projects to improve beaches suffering from storm damage. Among the projects funded are those that increase the width of beaches, and construct dunes and bulkheads.

In 1998, Gov. Whitman challenged more New Jerseyans to volunteer to help their fellow citizens, and throughout the year Gov. Whitman spent time each month reading for Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic. The organization provides audio tapes of books for those with vision problems. She added teaching to her list of volunteer activities in her 1999 State of the State address.

"In my class, I spoke about how one of my favorite things about being governor is that it gives me a chance to make a real difference in people's lives. Teaching a class each month is one small way of making a difference," Gov. Whitman said. "But if I can set an example for others to follow, maybe they will volunteer - not only in schools, but in organizations and communities around New Jersey."

Gov. Whitman told the students that they, too, should strive to make New Jersey a better place to live, play, and go to school. "You don't have to be a governor to make a difference in people's lives. Each

one of you can set an example for others to follow. You can work hard in school. You can be kind, tolerant, and demonstrate respect for all people," she told the students.

Belmar Elementary School was chosen for the Governor's volunteerism project after the class was in a school bus accident on its way to a field trip to the State House several months ago.