

2C:43-7.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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(Repeat offenders)

NJSA: 2C:43-7.1

LAWS OF: 1995 **CHAPTER:** 126

BILL NO: S138

SPONSOR(S): Kosco and others

DATE INTRODUCED: Pre-filed

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Judiciary Law & Public Safety
SENATE: Judiciary

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes Amendments during passage
First reprint enacted denoted by superscript numbers

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** March 13, 1995 Re-enacted 6-12-95
SENATE: May 12, 1995 Re-enacted 5-25-95

DATE OF APPROVAL: June 22, 1995

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: Yes

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

See newspaper clippings--attached:

"Strike at crime...", 6-23-95, Star Ledger.

"Whitman oks crime bills," 6-23-95, Home News.

"3 strikes and you're in' becomes law," 6-23-95, Asbury Park Press.

KBG:pp

[FIRST REPRINT]

SENATE, No. 138

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1994 SESSION

By Senators KOSCO, Cafiero, McGreevey, Assemblymen Haytaian, LoBiondo, Assemblywomen Crecco, J. Smith, Assemblyman Geist, Assemblywoman Haines, Assemblymen Mikulak, Cottrell, Corodemus, Gibson, DiGaetano, Catania, Assemblywoman Heck, Assemblymen Solomon, Arnone, Azzolina, Felice, Assemblywoman Gregory-Scocchi, Assemblymen Kelly, Kramer, Rocco, Warsh, Assemblywoman Wright, Assemblymen Roma, Asselta, Assemblywoman Bark, Assemblymen Bodine, Bucco, DeCroce, Gaffney, Hayden, Holzapfel, Malone, Oros, R. Smith, Wolfe and Zecker

1 AN ACT concerning sentencing of certain repeat offenders ¹[and]
2 ¹,¹ supplementing Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes ¹and
3 amending N.J.S. 2C:43-7¹.

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

7 1. ¹[a.]¹ This act shall be known and may be cited as the
8 "Persistent Offenders Accountability Act."

9 ¹[b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, a person
10 convicted on a third or subsequent occasion of a crime under any
11 of the following sections: N.J.S. 2C:11-3; N.J.S. 2C:11-4;
12 subsection b. of N.J.S. 2C:12-1; N.J.S. 2C:13-1; N.J.S.2C:14-2;
13 N.J.S. 2C:15-1, or subsection a., b., or c. of N.J.S. 2C:39-4, or
14 under any similar statute of the United States or any other state
15 for a crime that is substantially equivalent, shall be sentenced to
16 a term of life imprisonment by the court, with no eligibility for
17 parole.]¹

18 ¹2. a. Life Imprisonment Without Parole. A person convicted
19 of a crime under any of the following: N.J.S. 2C:11-3; subsection
20 a. of N.J.S. 2C:11-4; a crime of the first degree under N.J.S.
21 2C:13-1, subsections a. (3), a. (4), a. (5), or a. (6) of N.J.S.
22 2C:14-2; N.J.S. 2C:15-1; or N.J.S. 2C:15-2, who has on two or
23 more prior and separate occasions been convicted of a crime
24 under any of the foregoing sections or under any similar statute
25 of the United States, this state, or any other state for a crime
26 that is substantially equivalent to a crime under any of the
27 foregoing sections, shall be sentenced to a term of life
28 imprisonment by the court, with no eligibility for parole.

29 b. Extended Term for Repeat Violent Offenders. A person
30 shall be sentenced to an extended term of imprisonment pursuant
31 to N.J.S. 2C:43-7 if:

32 (1) The person is convicted of any of the following crimes: a
33 crime of the second degree under N.J.S. 2C:11-4; a crime of the
34 second or third degree under subsection b. of N.J.S. 2C:12-1; a
35 crime of the second degree under N.J.S. 2C:13-1; a crime under
36 N.J.S. 2C:14-3 for aggravated criminal sexual contact under any

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 Senate committee amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations May 11, 1995.

1 of the circumstances set forth in N.J.S.2C:14-2a. (3) through (6);
2 a crime of the second degree under N.J.S. 2C:15-1; a crime of
3 the second degree under N.J.S. 2C:18-2; or a crime of the second
4 degree under N.J.S. 2C:39-4 for possession of a weapon with the
5 purpose of using it unlawfully against the person of another, and
6 the person has on two or more prior and separate occasions been
7 convicted of any of the foregoing crimes or any of the crimes
8 enumerated in subsection a. of this section or under any similar
9 statute of the United States, this state, or any other state for a
10 crime that is substantially equivalent to a crime enumerated in
11 this subsection or in subsection a. of this section; or

12 (2) The person is convicted of a crime enumerated in
13 subsection a. of this section, does not have two or more prior
14 convictions that require sentencing under subsection a. and has
15 two or more prior convictions that would require sentencing
16 under paragraph 1 of this subsection if the person had been
17 convicted of a crime enumerated in paragraph 1.

18 c. The provisions of this section shall not apply unless the prior
19 convictions are for crimes committed on separate occasions and
20 unless the crime for which the defendant is being sentenced was
21 committed either within 10 years of the date of the defendant's
22 last release from confinement for commission of any crime or
23 within 10 years of the date of the commission of the most recent
24 of the crimes for which the defendant has a prior conviction.

25 d. The court shall not impose a sentence of imprisonment
26 pursuant to this section, unless the ground therefor has been
27 established at a hearing after the conviction of the defendant and
28 on written notice to the defendant of the ground proposed. The
29 defendant shall have the right to hear and controvert the
30 evidence against him and to offer evidence upon the issue. Prior
31 convictions shall be defined and proven in accordance with
32 2C:44-4.

33 e. For purposes of this section, a term of life shall mean the
34 natural life of a person sentenced pursuant to this section.
35 Except that a defendant who is at least 70 years of age and who
36 has served at least 35 years in prison pursuant to a sentence
37 imposed under this section shall be released on parole if the full
38 Parole Board determines that the defendant is not a danger to the
39 safety of any other person or the community.¹

40 ¹3. N.J.S. 2C:43-7 is amended to read as follows:

41 a. In the cases designated in section 2C:44-3, a person who has
42 been convicted of a crime may be sentenced, and in the cases
43 designated in subsection e. of section 2 of P.L.1994, c.130
44 (C.2C:43-6.4) and in subsection b. of section 2 of P.L. 1995, c.
45 (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as section 2 of this bill)
46 a person who has been convicted of a crime shall be sentenced, to
47 an extended term of imprisonment, as follows:

48 (1) In case of aggravated manslaughter sentenced under
49 subsection c. of N.J.S. 2C:11-4; or kidnapping when sentenced as
50 a crime of the first degree under paragraph (1) of subsection c. of
51 2C:13-1; or aggravated sexual assault if the person is eligible for
52 an extended term pursuant to the provisions of subsection g. of
53 N.J.S. 2C:44-3 for a specific term of years which shall be
54 between 30 years and life imprisonment;

- 1 (2) Except for the crime of murder and except as provided in
2 paragraph (1) of this subsection, in the case of a crime of the
3 first degree, for a specific term of years which shall be fixed by
4 the court and shall be between 20 years and life imprisonment;
- 5 (3) In the case of a crime of the second degree, for a term
6 which shall be fixed by the court between 10 and 20 years;
- 7 (4) In the case of a crime of the third degree, for a term which
8 shall be fixed by the court between five and 10 years;
- 9 (5) In the case of a crime of the fourth degree pursuant to
10 2C:43-6c., 2C:44-3d., 2C:44-3e. for a term of five years, and in
11 the case of a crime of the fourth degree pursuant to 2C:43-6f.
12 and 2C:43-6g. for a term which shall be fixed by the court
13 between three and five years;
- 14 (6) In the case of the crime of murder, for a specific term of
15 years which shall be fixed by the court between 35 years and life
16 imprisonment, of which the defendant shall serve 35 years before
17 being eligible for parole;
- 18 (7) In the case of kidnapping under paragraph (2) of subsection
19 c. of 2C:13-1, for a specific term of years which shall be fixed by
20 the court between 30 years and life imprisonment, of which the
21 defendant shall serve 30 years before being eligible for parole.
- 22 b. As part of a sentence for an extended term and
23 notwithstanding the provisions of 2C:43-9, the court may fix a
24 minimum term not to exceed one-half of the term set pursuant to
25 subsection a. during which the defendant shall not be eligible for
26 parole or a term of 25 years during which time the defendant
27 shall not be eligible for parole where the sentence imposed was
28 life imprisonment; provided that no defendant shall be eligible for
29 parole at a date earlier than otherwise provided by the law
30 governing parole.
- 31 c. In the case of a person sentenced to an extended term
32 pursuant to 2C:43-6c., 2C:43-6f. and 2C:44-3d., the court shall
33 impose a sentence within the ranges permitted by 2C:43-7a.(2),
34 (3), (4) or (5) according to the degree or nature of the crime for
35 which the defendant is being sentenced, which sentence shall
36 include a minimum term which shall, except as may be
37 specifically provided by N.J.S.2C:43-6f., be fixed at or between
38 one-third and one-half of the sentence imposed by the court or
39 five years, whichever is greater, during which the defendant shall
40 not be eligible for parole. Where the sentence imposed is life
41 imprisonment, the court shall impose a minimum term of 25 years
42 during which the defendant shall not be eligible for parole, except
43 that where the term of life imprisonment is imposed on a person
44 convicted for a violation of N.J.S. 2C:35-3, the term of parole
45 ineligibility shall be 30 years.
- 46 d. In the case of a person sentenced to an extended term
47 pursuant to N.J.S. 2C:43-6g., the court shall impose a sentence
48 within the ranges permitted by N.J.S.2C:43-7a(2), (3), (4) or (5)
49 according to the
50 degree or nature of the crime for which the defendant is being
51 sentenced, which sentence shall include a minimum term which
52 shall be fixed at 15 years for a crime of the first or second
53 degree, eight years for a crime of the third degree, or five years
54 for a crime of the fourth degree during which the defendant shall

1 not be eligible for parole. Where the sentence imposed is life
2 imprisonment, the court shall impose a minimum term of 25 years
3 during which the defendant shall not be eligible for parole, except
4 that where the term of life imprisonment is imposed on a person
5 convicted of a violation of N.J.S. 2C:35-3, the term of parole
6 eligibility shall be 30 years.

7 (cf: P.L.1994, c.130, s.3)¹

8 ¹[2.]4.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.

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13 Provides that a person convicted of violent crimes on three or
14 more occasions be sentenced to a mandatory term of life
15 imprisonment.

SENATE, No. 138
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1994 SESSION

By Senator KOSCO

1 AN ACT concerning sentencing of certain repeat offenders and
2 supplementing Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

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

6 1. a. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
7 "Persistent Offenders Accountability Act."

8 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, a person
9 convicted on a third or subsequent occasion of a crime under any
10 of the following sections: N.J.S.2C:11-3; N.J.S.2C:11-4;
11 subsection b. of N.J.S.2C:12-1; N.J.S.2C:13-1; N.J.S.2C:14-2;
12 N.J.S.2C:15-1, or subsections a., b., or c. of 2C:39-4, or under
13 any similar statute of the United States or any other state for a
14 crime that is substantially equivalent, shall be sentenced to a
15 term of life imprisonment by the court, with no eligibility for
16 parole.

17 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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22 This bill, the "Persistent Offenders Accountability Act,"
23 provides that a person convicted on separate occasions of three
24 or more specified, violent crimes would be sentenced to a
25 mandatory term of life imprisonment with no eligibility for
26 parole. The crimes are: murder; manslaughter; aggravated
27 assault; kidnapping; sexual assault; robbery, and possession of a
28 firearm, explosive or destructive device for an unlawful purpose.

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33 Provides that a person convicted of violent crimes on three or
34 more occasions be sentenced to a mandatory term of life
35 imprisonment.

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY, LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 138

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 23, 1995

The Assembly Judiciary, Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 138.

This bill provides that a person convicted on three, separate occasions of certain violent crimes would be sentenced to a mandatory term of life imprisonment with no eligibility for parole. The crimes covered by the bill are: murder; manslaughter; aggravated assault; kidnapping; sexual assault; robbery, and possession of a firearm, explosive or destructive device for an unlawful purpose.

This bill is identical to the Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill Nos. 24 and 1619.

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 138

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 31, 1994

The Senate Judiciary Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 138.

Under the bill, a person convicted on three, separate occasions of certain violent crimes would be sentenced to a mandatory term of life imprisonment with no eligibility for parole. The crimes covered by the bill are: murder; manslaughter; aggravated assault; kidnapping; sexual assault; robbery, and possession of firearm, explosive or destructive device for an unlawful purpose.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 1994 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

May 8, 1995

SENATE BILL NO. 138

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 138 with my recommendations for reconsideration.

A. Summary of Bill

Senate Bill No. 138 provides that a person convicted on a third or subsequent occasion of any of the crimes enumerated in the bill shall be sentenced to a term of life imprisonment with no eligibility for parole.

The provisions of this bill also apply to persons convicted of crimes, similar to those enumerated in the bill, under any statute of the United States or any other state.

The bill provides for an immediate effective date.

B. Recommended Action

The purpose of this legislation is to protect the public from persons who persistently commit serious and violent crimes. I fully support the objectives of this bill and commend the Legislature on its efforts in drafting this important legislation.

However, I recommend that this bill be amended to include among its enumerated crimes the violent and serious offenses of carjacking (a first degree crime) and burglary involving injury or use of a weapon (a second degree crime). Additionally, I recommend that the bill be amended to include crimes similar to those enumerated which were committed under prior law of this State.

Furthermore, I am advised by the Attorney General that the provisions of this bill are inconsistent with the grading structure for offenses in the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice (the "Criminal Code"). The bill punishes a person convicted of three fourth degree crimes (crimes graded as the least serious crimes in

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the Criminal Code) in the same manner as it punishes a person convicted of three first degree crimes (crimes graded as the most serious crimes in the Criminal Code). In effect, the bill is contrary to the legislative principle that criminal punishment should fit the seriousness of the crime.

I recommend, therefore, that this bill be amended to establish a two-tier sentencing structure which comports to the grading structure for crimes in the Criminal Code. Under the recommended two-tier sentencing structure, a person convicted on separate occasions of at least three first degree crimes listed in the first tier will be sentenced to life imprisonment without parole. A person convicted on separate occasions of at least three second or third degree crimes listed in the second tier, or any combination of three crimes from the first and second tiers, will receive an extended term of imprisonment for the third crime.

In keeping with the grading structure of the Criminal Code, I also recommend the deletion of fourth degree crimes from the provisions of this bill. Fourth degree crimes are the least serious crimes under the Criminal Code and should not be included in a bill concerning persistently violent offenders.

My other recommended changes are to remedy certain technical problems with the bill.

Therefore, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 138 and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 1, Section 1, Line 6 : After "1." delete "a."

Page 1, Section 1, Lines 8-16: Delete in entirety and insert new sections as follows:

2. a. Life Imprisonment Without Parole. A person convicted of a crime under any of the following:

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N.J.S.2C:11-3; subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:11-4; a crime of the first degree under N.J.S.2C:13-1, subsections a.(3), a.(4), a.(5), or a.(6) of N.J.S.2C:14-2; N.J.S.2C:15-1; or N.J.S.2C:15-2, who has on two or more prior and separate occasions been convicted of a crime under any of the foregoing sections or under any similar statute of the United States, this state, or any other state for a crime that is substantially equivalent to a crime under any of the foregoing sections, shall be sentenced to a term of life imprisonment by the court, with no eligibility for parole.

b. Extended Term for Repeat Violent Offenders. A person shall be sentenced to an extended term of imprisonment pursuant to N.J.S.2C:43-7 if:

(1) The person is convicted of any of the following crimes: a crime of the second degree under N.J.S.2C:11-4; a crime of the second or third degree under subsection b. of N.J.S.2C:12-1; a crime of the second degree under N.J.S.2C:13-1; a crime under N.J.S.2C:14-3 for aggravated criminal sexual contact under any of the circumstances set forth in N.J.S.2C:14-2a.(3) through (6); a crime of the second degree under N.J.S.2C:15-1; a crime of the second degree under N.J.S.2C:18-2; or a crime of the second degree under N.J.S.2C:39-4 for possession of a weapon with the purpose of using it unlawfully against the person of another, and the person has on two or more prior and separate occasions been convicted of any of the foregoing crimes or any of the crimes enumerated in subsection a. of this section or under any similar statute of the United States, this state, or any other state for a crime that is substantially equivalent to a crime enumerated in this subsection or in subsection a. of this section; or

(2) The person is convicted of a crime enumerated in subsection a. of this section, does not have two or more prior convictions that require

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sentencing under subsection a. and has two or more prior convictions that would require sentencing under paragraph 1 of this subsection if the person had been convicted of a crime enumerated in paragraph 1.

c. The provisions of this section shall not apply unless the prior convictions are for crimes committed on separate occasions and unless the crime for which the defendant is being sentenced was committed either within 10 years of the date of the defendant's last release from confinement for commission of any crime or within 10 years of the date of the commission of the most recent of the crimes for which the defendant has a prior conviction.

d. The court shall not impose a sentence of imprisonment pursuant to this section, unless the ground therefor has been established at a hearing after the conviction of the defendant and on written notice to the defendant of the ground proposed. The defendant shall have the right to hear and controvert the evidence against him and to offer evidence upon the issue. Prior convictions shall be defined and proven in accordance with 2C:44-4.

e. For purposes of this section, a term of life shall mean the natural life of a person sentenced pursuant to this section. Except that a defendant who is at least 70 years of age and who has served at least 35 years in prison pursuant to a sentence imposed under this section shall be released on parole if the full Parole Board determines that the defendant is not a danger to the safety of any other person or the community.

3. N.J.S.2C:43-7 is amended to read as follow:

a. In the cases designated in 2C:44-3, a person who has been convicted of a crime may be sentenced and in the cases designated in subsection b. of section 1 of P.L. 1995, c. (now pending before the

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Legislature as section 1 of this bill)
(C:2C:44-3.1) a person shall be
sentenced to an extended term of
imprisonment, as follows:

(1) In case of aggravated
manslaughter sentenced under
subsection c. of N.J.S.2C:11-4 or
kidnapping when sentenced as a crime
of the first degree under
paragraph (1) of subsection c. of
2C:13-1 for a specific term of years
which shall be between 30 years and
life imprisonment;

(2) Except for the crime of murder
and except as provided in
paragraph (1) of this subsection, in
the case of a crime of the first
degree, for a specific term of years
which shall be fixed by the court and
shall be between 20 years and life
imprisonment;

(3) In the case of a crime of the
second degree, for a term which shall
be fixed by the court between 10 and
20 years;

(4) In the case of a crime of the
third degree, for a term which shall
be fixed by the court between 5 and 10
years;

(5) In the case of a crime of the
fourth degree pursuant to 2C:43-6c.,
2C:44-3d. and 2C:44-3e. for a term of
five years, and in the case of a crime
of the fourth degree pursuant to
2C:43-6f. for a term which shall be
fixed by the court between three and
five years [.];

(6) In the case of the crime of
murder, for a term which shall be
fixed by the court between 35 years
and life.

b. As part of a sentence for an
extended term and notwithstanding the
provisions of 2C:43-9, the court may
fix a minimum term not to exceed one-
half of the term set pursuant to
subsection a. during which the
defendant shall not be eligible for
parole or a term of 25 years during
which time the defendant shall not be

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eligible for parole where the sentence imposed was life imprisonment; provided that no defendant shall be eligible for parole at a date earlier than otherwise provided by the law governing parole.

c. In the case of a person sentenced to an extended term pursuant to 2C:43-6c., 2C:43-6f. and 2C:44-3d., the court shall impose a sentence within the ranges permitted by 2C:43-7a.(2), (3), (4) or (5) according to the degree or nature of the crime for which the defendant is being sentenced, which sentence shall include a minimum term which shall, except as may be specifically provided by N.J.S.2C:43-6f., be fixed at or between one-third and one-half of the sentence imposed by the court or five years, whichever is greater, during which the defendant shall not be eligible for parole. Where the sentence imposed is life imprisonment, the court shall impose a minimum term of 25 years during which the defendant shall not be eligible for parole, except that where the term of life imprisonment is imposed on a person convicted for a violation of N.J.S.2C:35-3, the term of parole ineligibility shall be 30 years.

d. In the case of a person sentenced to an extended term pursuant to N.J.S.2C:43-6g., the court shall impose a sentence within the ranges permitted by N.J.S.2C:43-7a(2), (3), (4) or (5) according to the degree or nature of the crime for which the defendant is being sentenced, which sentence shall include a minimum term which shall be fixed at 15 years for a crime of the first or second degree, 3 years for a crime of the third degree, or 5 years for a crime of the fourth degree during which the defendant shall not be eligible for parole. Where the sentence imposed is life imprisonment, the court shall impose a minimum term of 25 years during which the defendant shall not be eligible for parole, except that where the term of life imprisonment is imposed on a person convicted of a violation of

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N.J.S.2C:35-3, the term of parole
ineligibility shall be 30 years.

Page 1, Section 2, Line 17: Delete "2." and insert "4."

Respectfully,

/s/ Christine Todd Whitman

GOVERNOR

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Margaret M. Foti

Chief Counsel to the Governor



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

CN-001

Contact: RITA MANNO
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TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: JUNE 22, 1995

Gov. Christie Whitman signed into law today the "Three Strikes" bill, which imposes life sentences on three-time violent offenders.

"Today, the citizens of New Jersey put offenders on notice that if they continue to commit violent acts, they will be behind bars for life," the Governor said.

The bill, S-138, which was sponsored by Sen. Louis Kosco (R-Bergen) was signed at the Garden State Reception and Youth correctional Facility in Yardville.

The legislation sets up a two-tier sentencing structure providing life without parole for persons who are convicted of first degree crimes on three separate occasions. Under the law, persons convicted of any three of the following crimes would be subject to life imprisonment: murder, aggravated manslaughter, certain aggravated sexual assaults, armed robbery, carjacking and kidnapping.

A person convicted on separate occasions of at least three second or third degree crimes enumerated in the law, or a combination of crimes from the first and second tiers, will receive an extended term of imprisonment for the third crime.

Offenders serving life terms under the new law may be released on parole if they have served at least 35 years in prison, are at least 70 years of age and are not considered a risk to the community as determined by a unanimous vote of the state Parole Board.

The Governor also signed the Zero Tolerance for Guns Act (A-2348), which provides for the removal from school any pupil convicted of an offense involving a firearm or found in possession of a firearm. A related bill, A-2349, which permits the removal from school of a pupil who assaults a teacher, administrator or other school employee with a weapon other than a firearm was also signed.

Sponsors of the two bills are Assemblymen John Rocco (R-Camden) and Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth).