

NEWS RELEASE

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

A-317, sponsored by Assembly Members Nia Gill (D-Essex) and John Kelly (R-Bergen/ Passaic), permits municipalities to provide certain funds for low and moderate income housing. The bill clarifies the Fair Housing Act to permit municipalities to use public monies to make donations, grants or loans of public funds for the rehabilitation of deficient housing units to be used as low or moderate income housing.

A-371, sponsored by Assembly Member Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union), allows manicure shops to be licensed with oversight by a licensed manicurist. The bill allows a manicurist shop to qualify for a license without oversight of a licensed barber, beautician or cosmetologist-hair stylist.

A-1104, sponsored by Assembly Members Guy Gregg (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Marion Crecco (R-Essex/Passaic) and Senators Louis Kosco (R-Bergen) and John Girgenti (D-Passaic), raises the maximum age for membership in New Jersey State Firemen's Association (NJFSA) from 40 to 45 years of age. The legislation was generated by the NJFSA.

A-1642, sponsored by Assembly Members Paul DiGaetano (R-Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and David Russo (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Senator Gerald Cardinale (R-Bergen), permits an annual budget increase and salary increases for certain superintendents of elections and commissioners of registration. The bill raises the total allowable expenses for superintendent of elections, commissioner of registration and custodian of voting machines from \$1.5 million to \$2 million. The bill also removes the salary cap for those positions and enables county governing bodies to determine the salaries.

A-1678, sponsored by Assembly Member David Russo (R-Bergen/Passaic) and Charles Zisa (D-Bergen), provides that county governing bodies appoint a county adjuster if no other county official or employee performs the duties. Current law requires that a Superior Court Judge must designate the adjuster. The legislation relieves the Judiciary of a duty more appropriate to county government. The county adjuster is responsible for the preparation of papers relating to the commitment of the mentally ill.

A-1710, sponsored by Assembly Members Alan Augustine (R- Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Richard Bagger (R- Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union), Senate President Don DiFrancesco (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Senator Walter Kavanaugh (R-Morris/Somerset), permits certain firefighters to become members of New Jersey State Firemen's Association (NJFSA). The purpose of the bill is to ensure that firefighters who were eligible to join the NJFSA during the open period of June 21, 1988 through May 31, 1989 have ample opportunity

to apply for relief, support and benefits provided to members of the NJFSA.