To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 788 (Second Reprint) without my approval.

Today, I signed the Fiscal Year 2013 Appropriations Act prepared and passed by the legislative majority. That budget, which contained billions of dollars in spending, failed to address the single issue that strikes at the heart of our shared interests and our continued prosperity: immediate tax relief for all New Jersey residents. To the contrary, and for the third time in as many years, the legislative majority has proposed raising income taxes as a solution to years of leaderless governance that was the norm in Trenton before January 2010.

Accompanying that budget were a number of additional bills, including this proposal, that would ladle on even more government spending. Separating these bills from the Appropriations Act is little more than a thinly veiled attempt to circumvent the tough choices required to meet the constitutional obligation of passing a balanced budget. Some elected officials persist in the convenient thinking, honed to perfection in the years prior to my Administration, that a spending bill or a tax increase passed outside the budget is not really taxing and spending as usual. But as every homeowner with a mortgage, every student with a tuition bill, and every business with a delivery knows, simply wishing for more money to pay the bills is a reckless, childish, guaranteed path towards financial disaster.
for the people whose welfare we are prepared to help protect.

To join me in the great and worthy task of leadership, with and
across our State, and welcome all members of the Legislature to
will continue to answer the call to action that times loudly
sacrificed in this great and worthy task.

that are fair, or the compromise to which concessions have
been made, the difficult decision, the fight for principles
present. But we are new generations, we do not shy away from the
future to avoid the inconveniences, but essential, choices of the
debt, upon which mortgaging our future, and our children's
future decades ago, it was noted that government has failed
in a situation where, more than attempts to raise taxes, I inquired the Legislature to learn to

Twelve months ago, I emphasized the second of these
for our next fiscal year, rather than next June.

collars. That change should begin now, as we begin planning
spending according to the competing proposals for using taxpayer
openly and honestly debate the merits of their preferred
legislature is serious in advancing these ideas, let the members

the construction, and expected by the people. If the
budget without delay by setting reductions required by
reflecting the attempt to simplify and utilize millions of dollars to the
merits of these Legislative initiatives. Instead, I am
refused to accept this excess spending by a motion on the
majority of the Governor's spending for the coming fiscal year. My
are no different. Taken together, they would add more than $275
these bills passed by the Legislature outside the budget

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF NEW JERSEY