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News Release

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For Immediate Release

Gov. Corzine Signs Historic Transfer Legislation into Law

CHERRY HILL, N.J.— Today at Camden County College’s William G. Rohrer Center, Gov. Jon S. Corzine signed A3968/S2535 into law, legislation that promotes the seamless transfer of New Jersey community college associate degree graduates into baccalaureate degree programs at public four-year colleges and universities throughout the state.

Under the new law, each public higher education institution will enter into a collective statewide transfer agreement in consultation with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and the New Jersey Presidents’ Council. The Commission is the state agency that provides coordination, planning, policy development, and advocacy for the state’s higher education system; the New Jersey Presidents’ Council is the statewide organization for the presidents of New Jersey’s colleges and universities.

“This statewide transfer legislation is a landmark achievement for higher education in New Jersey,” said Council Chairman Dr. Richard Wellbrock. “It places a high value on an associate degree earned at community colleges, and will be a huge benefit to our students.”

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Prior to this legislation, New Jersey community college students have transferred to four-year colleges and universities on a college-to-college, course-by course basis. In contrast, the new transfer legislation requires a common statewide approach that will better serve students no matter which community college they attend and no matter which four-year college they transfer to. With this legislation, New Jersey joins the ranks of nearly 40 other states throughout the country that have enacted some form of higher education transfer legislation.

“Today, Gov. Corzine has sent an important message to the 400,000 students who attend New Jersey’s community colleges annually,” said Council President Dr. Lawrence Nespoli. “This legislation will improve educational opportunity for you. Students no longer have to fear losing credits, or having to take the same course over again.”

State Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt and Assemblymen Patrick Diegnan, Craig Stanley, and Michael Doherty sponsored A3968. State Senators Ronald Rice and Joseph Doria sponsored S2535. They were joined by over 40 other co-sponsors on this important legislation, which passed unanimously in both the Assembly and Senate.

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges is the state association representing New Jersey’s 19 community colleges. As an independent, trustee-headed organization that joins the leadership of trustees and presidents, the Council is the voice of the community college sector before the state legislature and other branches of government. The Council is also the state coordinating organization for all community colleges in New Jersey.