

To Governor Murphy

We come together as a coalition of grassroots organizations representing New Jersey voters from the George Washington Bridge, to the Jersey Shore, to Trenton. Our common goal is the preservation of the values and principles that have led our state to economic, educational, and environmental leadership, at a time when those values and principles are under threat..

As soon-to-be President Trump has rolled out the names of candidates to fill out his administration, his intentions for his term in office have become increasingly clear. Many of his policy choices clearly run counter to social, cultural, and moral values that we uphold and cherish in the Garden State, and also threaten established NJ policies and laws.

For example:

- A roundup and mass deportation of undocumented immigrants would be a civil rights and humanitarian disaster, and would do serious harm to New Jersey's economy. The estimated 428,000 undocumented immigrants living in New Jersey contributed \$1.3 billion in state and local taxes in 2022.
- The \$2 trillion in cuts to discretionary spending proposed by Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy cannot be accomplished without massive cuts to federal programs New Jersey citizens rely on, including Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and public education.
- The enactment of the plans detailed in Project 2025 would raise the cost of prescription drugs for up to 473,370 people in New Jersey by eliminating out-of-pocket Medicare drug expenditure limits. It would also block the government from the sensible approach of negotiating further for lower drug prices.
- Any moves by a Republican administration to further restrict access to abortion, for example, by forcing a withdrawal of the FDA approval for mifepristone, or by the application of the Comstock Act, would further erode women's rights in New Jersey and across the nation.
- Project 2025 calls for eliminating some emergency contraception medications from free preventive care requirements, meaning 1,360,000 women in New Jersey would lose guaranteed access to free emergency contraception.
- As attacks on LGBTQ+ civil rights multiply nationwide, New Jersey's status as a bastion of LGBTQ+ equality is more important than ever. But federal actions, regulatory changes, and attempts to defund LGBTQ+ inclusive institutions threaten the progress we have made.
- New Jersey has warmed by about 3°F in the last century, heavy rainstorms are more frequent, and the sea is rising about one inch every six years. Higher water levels are eroding beaches, submerging low-lying lands, exacerbating coastal flooding, and increasing the salinity of estuaries and aquifers. The Trump administration's plans to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, roll back key provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act, and "drill, baby, drill" will accelerate climate change and cause irreparable

harm to New Jersey's environment. Our citizens already see the impact in the rising cost of insurance policies.

- New Jersey's tourism industry contributes about \$24 billion to the state's GDP, supports over 500,000 jobs, and generates \$134 million in daily spending. This thriving sector is threatened by inaction on climate change.
- New Jersey is the [2nd highest contributor](#) in the country of federal tax dollars paid to the federal government and thus should not be ignored—or actually penalized—in decisions over federal spending, as was the case during the first Trump administration.

“Masterful inactivity” or seeking “common ground” with the toxic plans and policies noted above are not strategies to deal with the coming direct assault on the people of our State. As Governor, we would like to know what proactive steps you will take to protect the people of NJ from the most radical parts of the Trump agenda?

For example, will you:

- Join the coalition of [Governors Safeguarding Democracy](#)?
- Ensure the passage of a State Constitutional Amendment to protect abortion rights?
- Work with the legislature to formulate legal strategies to prevent or slow mass deportations?
- Loudly and publicly oppose any additional redistributive tax changes that increase wealth inequality, through cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and education?
- Protect New Jersey's LGBTQ+ community by strengthening state-level anti-discrimination policies, expanding access to gender-affirming care, and ensuring that all individuals are treated with dignity and equality, regardless of federal threats.
- Leverage our values and provide economic incentives to aggressively recruit skilled workers from Red States to New Jersey, to the benefit of our economy?
- Enshrine environmental protections?
- Collectively leverage the power of Blue State economies to impose environmental standards?
- Work to improve the living standards of NJ citizens by increasing affordable housing, reducing high NJ income taxes on working people, enhancing property tax relief, and improving NJ Transit for reliability and affordability?

What other ideas can you put forward to make sure that New Jersey is in the vanguard of the effort to preserve our democratic values and to resist and reverse the current slide toward an illiberal, kleptocratic plutocracy?

Your constituents need to know where you stand on this, the most pressing issue for the closing months of your stewardship of our State.

[signed]

One NJ7

SOMA Action

Lawrence Citizen Activists

Indivisible Cranbury

Westfield 20/20

Indivisible Central NJ

Indivisible Lambertville New Hope

Indivisible Highland Park

Indivisible Rahway

Long Valley Indivisible

Bergen Indivisible for Democracy

SJNOWIndivisible

Swing Left Indivisible NJ

Indivisible Princeton

Action Together New Jersey

The Visibility Brigade

Cape May County Indivisible

GWB Indivisible

Indivisible NJ 5th District

SWEEP NJ

Trenton Makes Indivisible

Ridgewood JOLT

Indivisible Garden State Values

Jersey Shore Blue

Cooper River Indivisible

We The People NJ-07

Indivisible Wayne

Hackettstown Drinking Liberally

Summit Area Indivisible