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New Jersey Lawsuit Reform Alliance Applauds Governor's Action on Wrongful Death Legislation

Trenton (January 15, 2008) – The New Jersey Lawsuit Reform Alliance (NJLRA), a statewide, bipartisan group committed to improving New Jersey's civil justice system, released the following statement by executive director Marcus Rayner regarding Governor Corzine's pocket veto of S-176/A-1511 that would have expanded the state's wrongful death act:

“NJLRA and its members applaud Governor Corzine's action to pocket veto the wrongful death act. With this action, New Jersey's employers and citizens can breathe a sigh of relief. This bill would have put a terrible tax on our economy and burdened businesses across the state. Employers in New Jersey should be relieved that Governor Corzine heard the concerns of the business community and referred the bill back to the legislature for further work.

“Our wrongful death laws represent mainstream legal theory and they are working. By rejecting legislation that was heavily promoted by the trial bar, Governor Corzine has ensured that residents of the state will retain their access to the courts but will not have insurance and healthcare costs driven up by disproportionate damage awards.

“The Governor's action today demonstrates support for New Jersey's employers and its citizens alike. Promoting fairness in our courts helps improve our economy, which makes New Jersey a better place to live and work.”

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The New Jersey Lawsuit Reform Alliance (NJLRA) is a statewide, bipartisan group of businesses, individuals and organizations committed to improving the State's civil justice system by advocating for legal reforms in the legislature and in the courts. NJLRA believes a balanced civil justice system is critical to ensuring fair and open courts, maintaining and attracting jobs and fostering economic growth in New Jersey. NJLRA is the only organization in New Jersey dedicated exclusively to civil justice reform.