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February 8, 2018

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of New Jersey
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

I applaud your attention to the high tax burden New Jersey residents face and share your opposition to the new \$10,000 cap on state and local taxes (SALT) individuals can deduct on their federal income tax returns. I respectfully request your advocacy and support for legislation that would eliminate New Jersey's \$10,000 cap on deductions for property taxes on taxpayers' state income tax returns.

New Jersey has the highest property taxes in the Nation. Our State's residents pay on average over \$8,500 annually in property taxes, which is over 250% the national average. Capping taxpayers' deductions on SALT negatively and disproportionately affects New Jersey residents compared to residents from other states. Repealing on the \$10,000 property tax deduction for state income tax filers would alleviate some of that newly increased financial burden.

I have led bipartisan efforts on Capitol Hill trying to reinstate the full deductibility of SALT. I have authored and cosponsored several pieces of legislation aimed at providing relief from this deleterious cap with my colleague, Congressman Josh Gottheimer. I am confident that our combined efforts will bring tax relief to the citizens of New Jersey.

Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to working with you on this issue of vital importance to New Jersey residents. Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leonard Lance".

Leonard Lance
Member of Congress