SENATE, No. 1042 **STATE OF NEW JERSEY** 214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 4, 2010

Sponsored by: Senator DIANE B. ALLEN District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Revises procedures for the use of eminent domain and compensation for loss of business in municipal redevelopment programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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AN ACT concerning redevelopment, amending various parts of the
 statutory law, and amending and supplementing P.L.1992, c.79.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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1. (New Section) The Legislature finds and declares that the
procedure that a local government follows when it wants to
redevelop or use eminent domain must be reformed to ensure that it
is fair, ethical, and transparent, and that citizens have a meaningful
opportunity for appeal and for fair compensation for their loss.

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13 2. Section 6 of P.L.1971, c.361 (C.20:3-6) is amended to read as14 follows:

15 6. Whenever any condemnor shall have determined to acquire 16 property pursuant to law, including public property already devoted 17 to public purpose, but cannot acquire title thereto or possession 18 thereof by agreement with a prospective condemnee, whether by 19 reason of disagreement concerning the compensation to be paid or 20 for any other cause, the condemnation of such property and the compensation to be paid therefor, and to whom payable, and all 21 22 matters incidental thereto and arising therefrom shall be governed, 23 ascertained and paid by and in the manner provided by this act; 24 provided, however, that no action to condemn shall be instituted 25 unless the condemnor is unable to acquire such title or possession 26 through bona fide negotiations with the prospective condemnee, 27 which negotiations shall include an offer in writing by the 28 condemnor to the prospective condemnee holding the title of record 29 to the property being condemned, setting forth the property and 30 interest therein to be acquired, the compensation offered to be paid 31 and a reasonable disclosure of the manner in which the amount of 32 such offered compensation has been calculated, and such other 33 matters as may be required by the rules. In the case of a property 34 upon which an ongoing business is being operated by an owner, the 35 amount of compensation to be offered shall be calculated pursuant 36 to the provisions of subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.1986, c.53 37 (C.20:3-29.1) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). Prior to 38 such offer the taking agency shall appraise said property and the 39 owner shall be given an opportunity to accompany the appraiser 40 during inspection of the property. Such offer shall be served by 41 certified mail. In no event shall such offer be less than the taking 42 agency's approved appraisal of the fair market value of such 43 property. A rejection of said offer or failure to accept the same 44 within the period fixed in written offer, which shall in no case be

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

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1 less than 14 days from the mailing of the offer, shall be conclusive 2 proof of the inability of the condemnor to acquire the property or 3 possession thereof through negotiations. When the holder of the 4 title is unknown, resides out of the State, or for other good cause, 5 the court may dispense with the necessity of such negotiations. 6 Neither the offer nor the refusal thereof shall be evidential in the 7 determination of compensation. 8 (cf: P.L.1971, c.361, s.6) 9 10 3. Section 29 of P.L.1971, c.361 (C. 20:3-29) is amended to read 11 as follows: 12 29. The condemnee shall be entitled to compensation for the 13 property, and damages, if any, to any remaining property, together 14 with such additional compensation as provided for herein, or as may 15 be fixed according to law. In the case of a property upon which an 16 ongoing business is being operated by an owner, the amount of 17 compensation to be offered shall be calculated pursuant to the 18 provisions of subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.1986, c.53 (C.20:3-19 29.1) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). 20 (cf: P.L.1971, c.361, s.29) 21 22 4. Section 1 of P.L.1986, c.53 (C.20:3-29.1) is amended to read 23 as follows: 24 1. <u>a.</u> The condemnor of agricultural or horticultural land which 25 is eligible for valuation, assessment, and taxation under the 26 "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et 27 seq.), shall compensate the condemnee for any loss of income 28 resulting from the interference of the condemnation proceeding with 29 the harvesting of any standing crops or other agricultural 30 commodities in an amount determined according to their 31 appropriate time of harvest, and for the remainder of their average 32 productive life, separate and apart from compensation for the fair 33 market value of the land. This act shall apply to all actions 34 instituted hereafter, and to all proceedings taken subsequent hereto 35 in all actions pending on the effective date of this act; except that judgments heretofore entered or awards heretofore made pursuant to 36 37 law from which no appeal is pending on the effective date of this 38 act are not affected by the provisions hereof. 39 The condemnor of a property upon which an ongoing <u>b.</u> 40 business is being operated by the condemnee shall compensate the 41 condemnee for any loss of income resulting from the interference of 42 the condemnation proceeding with the conduct of business in an 43 amount determined in a manner consistent with the assessment of 44 business income coverage in the insurance industry, separate and 45 apart from compensation for the fair market value of the property. 46 (cf: P.L.1986, c.53, s.1)

1 5. Section 3 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-3) is amended to 2 read as follows: 3 3. As used in this act: 4 "Bonds" means any bonds, notes, interim certificates, debentures 5 other obligations issued by a municipality, county, or 6 redevelopment entity, or housing authority pursuant to P.L.1992, 7 c.79 (C.40A:12A-3). 8 "Comparable, affordable replacement housing" means newly-9 constructed or substantially rehabilitated housing to be offered to a 10 household being displaced as a result of a redevelopment project, 11 that is affordable to that household based on its income under the 12 guidelines established by the Council on Affordable Housing in the 13 Department of Community Affairs for maximum affordable sales prices or maximum fair market rents, and that is comparable to the 14 15 household's dwelling in the redevelopment area with respect to the 16 size and amenities of the dwelling unit, the quality of the

neighborhood, and the level of public services and facilities offeredby the municipality in which the redevelopment area is located.

<u>"Detrimental to the safety, health, or welfare of the community"</u>
 <u>means objective evidence of detriment, including, but not limited</u>
 <u>to, substantial building or health code violations, excessive police</u>
 <u>activity, a lack of structural integrity or a continuing exterior</u>
 <u>appearance that degrades the surrounding properties.</u>

24 "Development" means the division of a parcel of land into two or 25 parcels, the construction, reconstruction, conversion, more 26 structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any building or 27 other structure, or of any mining, excavation or landfill, and any use 28 or change in the use of any building or other structure, or land or 29 extension of use of land, for which permission may be required 30 pursuant to the "Municipal Land Use Law," P.L.1975, c.291 31 (C.40:55D-1 et seq.).

32 "Development" means the division of a parcel of land into two or 33 parcels, the construction, reconstruction, more conversion, 34 structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any building or other structure, or of any mining, excavation or landfill, and any use 35 36 or change in the use of any building or other structure, or land or 37 extension of use of land, for which permission may be required 38 pursuant to the "Municipal Land Use Law," P.L.1975, c.291 39 (C.40:55D-1 et seq.).

"Governing body" means the body exercising general legislative
powers in a county or municipality according to the terms and
procedural requirements set forth in the form of government
adopted by the county or municipality.

44 "Housing authority" means a housing authority created or45 continued pursuant to this act.

46 "Housing project" means a project, or distinct portion of a
47 project, which is designed and intended to provide decent, safe and
48 sanitary dwellings, apartments or other living accommodations for

1 persons of low and moderate income; such work or undertaking 2 may include buildings, land, equipment, facilities and other real or 3 personal property for necessary, convenient or desirable 4 appurtenances, streets, sewers, water service, parks, site 5 preparation, gardening, administrative, community, health, recreational, educational, welfare or other purposes. 6 The term 7 "housing project" also may be applied to the planning of the 8 buildings and improvements, the acquisition of property, the 9 demolition of existing structures, the construction, reconstruction, 10 alteration and repair of the improvements and all other work in 11 connection therewith.

12 "Persons of low and moderate income" means persons or 13 families who are, in the case of State assisted projects or programs, 14 so defined by the Council on Affordable Housing in the Department 15 of Community Affairs, or in the case of federally assisted projects 16 or programs, defined as of "low and very low income" by the 17 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

18 "Public body" means the State or any county, municipality,19 school district, authority or other political subdivision of the State.

20 "Public housing" means any housing for persons of low and
21 moderate income owned by a municipality, county, the State or the
22 federal government, or any agency or instrumentality thereof.

23 "Publicly assisted housing" means privately owned housing 24 which receives public assistance or subsidy, which may be grants or 25 for construction, reconstruction, loans conservation, or 26 rehabilitation of the housing, or receives operational or maintenance 27 subsidies either directly or through rental subsidies to tenants, from 28 a federal, State or local government agency or instrumentality.

29 "Real property" means all lands, including improvements and 30 fixtures thereon, and property of any nature appurtenant thereto or 31 used in connection therewith, and every estate, interest and right, 32 legal or equitable, therein, including terms for years and liens by 33 way of judgment, mortgage or otherwise, and indebtedness secured 34 by such liens.

35 "Redeveloper" means any person, firm, corporation or public 36 body that shall enter into or propose to enter into a contract with a 37 municipality or other redevelopment entity for the redevelopment or 38 rehabilitation of an area in need of redevelopment, or an area in 39 need of rehabilitation, or any part thereof, under the provisions of 40 this act, or for any construction or other work forming part of a 41 redevelopment or rehabilitation project.

42 "Redevelopment" means clearance, replanning, development and 43 redevelopment; the conservation and rehabilitation of any structure 44 or improvement, the construction and provision for construction of 45 residential, commercial, industrial, public or other structures and 46 the grant or dedication of spaces as may be appropriate or necessary 47 in the interest of the general welfare for streets, parks, playgrounds, 48 or other public purposes, including recreational and other facilities 1 incidental or appurtenant thereto, in accordance with a 2 redevelopment plan.

"Redevelopment agency" means a redevelopment agency created
pursuant to subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1992, c.79
(C.40A:12A-11) or established heretofore pursuant to the
"Redevelopment Agencies Law," P.L.1949, c.306 (C.40:55C-1 et
seq.), repealed by this act, which has been permitted in accordance
with the provisions of this act to continue to exercise its
redevelopment functions and powers.

10 "Redevelopment area" or "area in need of redevelopment" means 11 an area determined to be in need of redevelopment pursuant to 12 sections 5 and 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and 40A:12A-6) 13 or determined heretofore to be a "blighted area" pursuant to 14 P.L.1949, c.187 (C.40:55-21.1 et seq.) repealed by this act, both 15 determinations as made pursuant to the authority of Article VIII, 16 Section III, paragraph 1 of the Constitution. A redevelopment area 17 may include lands, buildings, or improvements which of themselves 18 are not detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, but the 19 inclusion of which is found necessary, with or without change in 20 their condition, for the effective redevelopment of the area of which 21 they are a part.

22 "Redevelopment entity" means a municipality or an entity 23 authorized by the governing body of a municipality pursuant to 24 subsection c. of section 4 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-4) to 25 implement redevelopment plans and carry out redevelopment 26 projects in an area in need of redevelopment, or in an area in need 27 of rehabilitation, or in both.

"Redevelopment plan" means a plan adopted by the governing 28 29 body of a municipality for the redevelopment or rehabilitation of all 30 or any part of a redevelopment area, or an area in need of 31 rehabilitation, which plan shall be sufficiently complete to indicate 32 its relationship to definite municipal objectives as to appropriate 33 land uses, public transportation and utilities, recreational and 34 municipal facilities, and other public improvements; and to indicate 35 proposed land uses and building requirements in the redevelopment 36 area or area in need of rehabilitation, or both.

37 "Redevelopment project" means any work or undertaking pursuant to a redevelopment plan; such undertaking may include 38 39 any buildings, land, including demolition, clearance or removal of 40 buildings from land, equipment, facilities, or other real or personal 41 properties which are necessary, convenient, or desirable 42 appurtenances, such as but not limited to streets, sewers, utilities, 43 parks, site preparation, landscaping, and administrative, community, 44 health, recreational, educational, and welfare facilities.

45 "Rehabilitation" means an undertaking, by means of extensive
46 repair, reconstruction or renovation of existing structures, with or
47 without the introduction of new construction or the enlargement of
48 existing structures, in any area that has been determined to be in

1 need of rehabilitation or redevelopment, to eliminate substandard 2 structural or housing conditions and arrest the deterioration of that 3 area. "Rehabilitation area" or "area in need of rehabilitation" means 4 5 any area determined to be in need of rehabilitation pursuant to section 14 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-14). 6 7 (cf: P.L.2008, c.46, s.1) 8 9 6. Section 4 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-4) is amended to 10 read as follows: 11 4. In exercising the redevelopment and rehabilitation functions 12 provided for in this act: 13 a. A municipal governing body shall have the power to: 14 (1) Cause a preliminary investigation to be made pursuant to 15 subsection a. of section 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-6) as to whether an area is in need of redevelopment; 16 17 (2)Determine pursuant to subsection b. of section 6 of 18 P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-6) that an area is in need of 19 redevelopment; 20 Adopt a redevelopment plan pursuant to section 7 of (3) 21 P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-7); 22 (4) Determine pursuant to section 14 of P.L.1992, c.79 23 (C.40A:12A-14) that an area is in need of rehabilitation. 24 b. A municipal planning board shall have the power to: 25 (1) Conduct, when authorized by the municipal governing body, 26 investigation and hearing and preliminary make а a 27 recommendation pursuant to subsection b. of section 6 of P.L.1992, 28 c.79 (C.40A:12A-6) as to whether an area is in need of 29 redevelopment; 30 (2) Make recommendations concerning a redevelopment plan 31 pursuant to subsection e. of section 7 of P.L.1992, c.79 32 (C.40A:12A-7), or prepare a redevelopment plan pursuant to 33 subsection f. of that section. 34 (3) Make recommendations concerning the determination of an 35 area in need of rehabilitation pursuant to section 14 of P.L.1992, 36 c.79 (C.40A:12A-14). 37 c. (1) The municipality shall be responsible for implementing redevelopment plans and carrying out redevelopment projects 38 39 pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-8). The 40 municipality may execute these responsibilities directly, or in 41 addition thereto or in lieu thereof, [through] may designate by 42 ordinance either a municipal redevelopment agency, or a municipal 43 housing authority authorized to exercise redevelopment powers 44 pursuant to section 21 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-21), but there 45 shall be only one redevelopment entity responsible for each 46 redevelopment project. A county improvement authority authorized 47 to undertake redevelopment projects pursuant to the "county 48 improvement authorities law," P.L.1960, c.183 (C.40:37A-44 et

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1 seq.) may also act as a redevelopment entity pursuant to this act. 2 The redevelopment entity, so authorized, may contract with any 3 other public body, in accordance with the provisions of section 8 of 4 P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-8), for the carrying out of a 5 redevelopment project or any part thereof under its jurisdiction. 6 Notwithstanding the above, the governing body of the municipality 7 may, by ordinance, change or rescind the designation of the 8 redevelopment [entity responsible for implementing] agency or 9 housing authority designated to implement a redevelopment plan 10 and [carrying] <u>carry</u> out a redevelopment project and may <u>have the</u> municipality assume this responsibility [itself, but]; provided, 11 12 however, that only the redevelopment entity authorized to undertake 13 a particular redevelopment project shall remain authorized to 14 complete it, unless the redevelopment entity and redeveloper agree 15 otherwise, or unless no obligations have been entered into by the 16 redevelopment entity with parties other than the municipality. This 17 shall not diminish the power of the municipality to dissolve a 18 redevelopment entity pursuant to section 24 of P.L.1992, c.79 19 (C.40A:12A-24), and section 20 of the "Local Authorities Fiscal 20 Control Law," P.L.1983, c.313 (C.40A:5A-20). 21 (2) In addition to complying with the applicable provisions of the 22 State "Pay-to-Play" law, P.L.2005, c.51 (C.19:44A-20.13 et seq.), 23 the municipal governing body shall not enter into a contract with a 24 redevelopment entity if, between 36 months prior to the 25 dissemination of the request for proposals and 36 months following 26 the completion of any economic development activities undertaken pursuant to this section, the redevelopment entity has made a 27 28 contribution that is reportable by the recipient under P.L.1973, c.83 29 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.), to the candidate committee of any person 30 serving as a member of the municipal governing body when the 31 contract is awarded or to the State, county, or municipal committee 32 of the political party to which any person serving as a member of 33 the municipal governing body belongs when the contract is 34 awarded. 35 (3) A redevelopment entity that has entered into a contract with 36 the municipal governing body shall not make, during the duration of 37 the contract, a contribution that is reportable by the recipient under 38 P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) to the candidate committee of 39 any person serving as a member of the municipal governing body, 40 to the State, county, or municipal committee of the political party to 41 which any person serving as a member of the municipal governing 42 body belongs, or to the candidate committee of any person who 43 resides in the county in which any economic development activities 44 established pursuant to this section have been undertaken. 45 (cf: P.L.1992, c.79, s.4) 46 47 7. Section 5 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5) is amended to 48 read as follows:

5. A delineated area may be determined to be in need of redevelopment if, after investigation, notice and hearing as provided in section 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-6), the governing body of the municipality by [resolution] <u>ordinance</u> concludes that within the delineated area any of the following conditions is found:

a. The generality of buildings are [substandard,] unsafe,
[unsanitary,] dilapidated, [or obsolescent, or possess any of such
characteristics,] or are so lacking in light, air, or space, as to be
conducive to unwholesome living or working conditions.

b. The discontinuance of the use of buildings previously used
for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes; the
abandonment of such buildings; or the same being allowed to fall
into so great a state of disrepair as to be untenantable.

c. (1) Land that is owned by the municipality, the county, a
local housing authority, redevelopment agency or redevelopment
entity, or

17 (2) unimproved vacant land that has remained so for a period of 18 ten years prior to adoption of the [resolution] ordinance, and that 19 by reason of its location, remoteness, lack of means of access to 20 developed sections or portions of the municipality, or topography, 21 or nature of the soil,

is not likely to be developed through the instrumentality of
private capital <u>and is determined to be detrimental to the safety.</u>
<u>health, or welfare of the community.</u>

d. Areas with buildings or improvements [which, by reason of dilapidation, obsolescence, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light and sanitary facilities, excessive land coverage, deleterious land use or obsolete layout, or any combination of these or other factors,] whose conditions are determined to be detrimental to the safety, health, [morals,] or welfare of the community.

e. A [growing lack or total] lack of proper utilization of areas caused by the condition of the title, diverse ownership of the real property therein or other conditions, [resulting in a stagnant or not fully productive condition of land potentially useful and valuable for contributing to and serving the public health, safety and welfare] which, by virtue of these factors are determined to be detrimental to the safety, health, or welfare of the community.

f. Areas, in excess of five contiguous acres, whereon buildings
or improvements have been destroyed, consumed by fire,
demolished or altered by the action of storm, fire, cyclone, tornado,
earthquake or other casualty in such a way that the aggregate
assessed value of the area has been materially depreciated.

g. [In any municipality in which an enterprise zone has been
designated pursuant to the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones
Act," P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 et seq.) the execution of the
actions prescribed in that act for the adoption by the municipality

1 and approval by the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority 2 of the zone development plan for the area of the enterprise zone 3 shall be considered sufficient for the determination that the area is 4 in need of redevelopment pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of P.L.1992, 5 c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and 40A:12A-6) for the purpose of granting tax 6 exemptions within the enterprise zone district pursuant to the 7 provisions of P.L.1991, c.431 (C.40A:20-1 et seq.) or the adoption 8 of a tax abatement and exemption ordinance pursuant to the 9 provisions of P.L.1991, c.441 (C.40A:21-1 et seq.). The 10 municipality shall not utilize any other redevelopment powers 11 within the urban enterprise zone unless the municipal governing 12 body and planning board have also taken the actions and fulfilled 13 the requirements prescribed in P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et al.) 14 for determining that the area is in need of redevelopment or an area 15 in need of rehabilitation and the municipal governing body has 16 adopted a redevelopment plan ordinance including the area of the 17 enterprise zone.] (Deleted by amendment, P.L., c. .) (pending 18 before the Legislature as this bill)

h. [The designation of the delineated area is consistent with
smart growth planning principles adopted pursuant to law or
regulation.] (Deleted by amendment, P.L., c. .) (pending before
the Legislature as this bill)

23 i. Parcels, either vacant or developed, which historically have 24 been used in an industrial or commercial manner and which have 25 remained vacant or substantially underutilized for a period of 24 26 consecutive months due to environmental issues associated with 27 such parcels' historic use; provided, however, that this subsection 28 shall not apply when the owner is making a good-faith effort to 29 utilize the parcel, as evidenced by an application pending before, or 30 approved by, the Department of Environmental Protection for 31 permits to rehabilitate the parcel.

- 32 (cf: P.L.2003, c.125, s.3)
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34 8. Section 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-6) is amended to35 read as follows:

36 6. No area of a municipality shall be determined a a. 37 redevelopment area unless the governing body of the municipality 38 shall, by resolution, authorize the planning board to undertake a 39 preliminary investigation to determine whether the proposed area is 40 a redevelopment area according to the criteria set forth in section 5 41 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5). A redeveloper shall not conduct 42 or fund any part of the investigation. Such determination shall be 43 made after public notice and public hearing as provided in 44 subsection b. of this section. The governing body of a municipality 45 shall assign the conduct of the investigation and hearing to the 46 planning board of the municipality.

b. (1) Before proceeding to a public hearing on the matter, theplanning board shall prepare a map showing the boundaries of the

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1 proposed redevelopment area and the location of the various parcels 2 of property included therein. There shall be appended to the map a 3 statement setting forth the basis for the investigation. 4 (2) The planning board shall specify a date for and give notice 5 of a hearing for the purpose of hearing persons who are interested in 6 or would be affected by a determination that the delineated area is a 7 redevelopment area. 8 (3) (a) The hearing notice shall set forth the general boundaries 9 of the area to be investigated and state that a map has been prepared 10 and can be inspected at the office of the municipal clerk. The 11 notice shall be written in a simple, clear, understandable, and easily 12 readable way. The notice shall state that the governing body is 13 considering designating the area as a redevelopment area and that a 14 consequence of this designation is that the governing body would 15 have the authority to condemn property located within the area 16 pursuant to the procedures in the "Eminent Domain Act of 1971," 17 P.L.1971, c.361 (C.20:3-1 et seq.). A copy of the notice shall be 18 published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality 19 once each week for two consecutive weeks, and the last publication 20 shall be not less than ten days prior to the date set for the hearing. 21 If the municipality has an Internet web site, the notice shall be 22 posted thereon. A copy of the notice shall also be posted in such 23 other places within or proximate to the proposed redevelopment 24 area as may be available and appropriate. A copy of the notice shall 25 be [mailed] sent by certified or regular mail by the municipal clerk 26 at least ten] <u>14</u> days prior to the date set for the hearing to the last 27 owner, if any, of each parcel of property, and to any legal tenant of 28 a residential rental dwelling unit within the area according to the 29 assessment records of the municipality. The municipal clerk shall 30 make a diligent effort to ascertain the names and addresses of legal 31 tenants of rental dwelling units by contacting the legal owner of the 32 rental property or a management company identified by such owner, 33 but if unable to do so shall have a copy of the notice posted on 34 properties known to be rental dwelling units. A notice shall also be 35 sent by the municipal clerk to all persons at their last known 36 address, if any, whose names are noted on the assessment records as 37 claimants of an interest in any such parcel. The assessor of the 38 municipality shall make a notation upon the records when requested 39 to do so by any person claiming to have an interest in any parcel of 40 property in the municipality. The notice shall be published and 41 mailed by the municipal clerk , or by such clerk or official as the 42 planning board shall otherwise designate]. Failure to mail any such 43 notice shall not invalidate the investigation or determination 44 thereon. 45 (b) Prior to the hearing, a copy of all documents relevant to the 46 determination that an area is in need of redevelopment shall be 47 available for public inspection, and if the municipality has an

48 <u>Internet web site, they shall be posted thereon.</u>

1 (4) At the hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, 2 the planning board shall hear all persons who are interested in or 3 would be affected by a determination that the delineated area is a 4 redevelopment area. All testimony provided at the hearing shall be 5 under oath or affirmation. The hearing shall be recorded and 6 transcription of the full content of the hearing shall be made 7 available to the public. All objections to such a determination and 8 evidence in support of those objections, given orally or in writing, 9 shall be received and considered and made part of the public record. 10 All persons who would be affected by a determination that the 11 delineated area is a redevelopment area shall be allowed to bring 12 witnesses to provide evidence relevant to the determination that the 13 area is in need of redevelopment, and shall be allowed to submit 14 written questions which shall be posed by the planning board to the 15 witness or witnesses to whom they are directed if the planning 16 board deems the question relevant.

17 (5) (a) After completing its hearing on this matter, the planning 18 board shall recommend that the delineated area, or any part thereof, 19 be determined, or not be determined, by the municipal governing 20 body to be a redevelopment area. Prior to making any 21 determination that an area is in need of redevelopment, the planning 22 board shall review, in light of the conditions of the area and the 23 purposes of the redevelopment, whether designation of the area as 24 an area in need of rehabilitation, or some other strategy of 25 rehabilitation, preservation, or neighborhood improvement, may 26 represent a more appropriate means of addressing the conditions of 27 the area and the purposes of the redevelopment. The report of the 28 planning board shall set forth explicitly the reasons for its 29 determination that such other strategies are less appropriate, and 30 that the area should be designated in need of redevelopment. The 31 report shall also include an inventory of the environmental, 32 historical, and cultural assets in the delineated area.

33 (b) After receiving the recommendation of the planning board, 34 the municipal governing body may adopt [a resolution] an 35 ordinance determining that the delineated area, or any part thereof, 36 is a redevelopment area. [Upon the] Prior to final adoption of [a 37 resolution] the ordinance, the clerk of the municipality shall, 38 forthwith, transmit a copy of the [resolution] ordinance to the 39 Commissioner of Community Affairs for review. If the area in need 40 of redevelopment is not situated in an area in which development or 41 redevelopment is to be encouraged pursuant to any State law or 42 regulation promulgated pursuant thereto, the [determination] 43 ordinance shall not [take effect] be finally adopted without first 44 receiving the review and the approval of the commissioner. If the 45 commissioner does not issue an approval or disapproval within 30 46 calendar days of transmittal by the clerk, the determination shall be 47 deemed to be approved and the ordinance may be finally adopted.

1 If the area in need of redevelopment is situated in an area in which 2 development or redevelopment is to be encouraged pursuant to any 3 State law or regulation promulgated pursuant thereto, then the 4 determination shall take effect after the clerk has transmitted a copy 5 of the [resolution] ordinance to the commissioner. The 6 determination, if supported by substantial evidence and, if required, 7 approved by the commissioner, shall be binding and conclusive 8 upon all persons affected by the determination. [Notice of the 9 determination shall be served, within 10 days after the 10 determination, upon each person who filed a written objection 11 thereto and stated, in or upon the written submission, an address to 12 which notice of determination may be sent.

13 (6) [If written objections were filed in connection with the 14 hearing, the municipality shall, for 45 days next following its 15 determination to which the objections were filed, take no further 16 action to acquire any property by condemnation within the 17 redevelopment area.] (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. .) 18 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)

19 (7) [If a person who filed a written objection to a determination 20 by the municipality pursuant to this subsection shall, within 45 days 21 after the adoption by the municipality of the determination to which 22 the person objected, apply to the Superior Court, the court may 23 grant further review of the determination by procedure in lieu of 24 prerogative writ; and in any such action the court may make any 25 incidental order that it deems proper. [(Deleted by amendment, , c. .) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) 26 P.L.

27 (8) Notice of final adoption of an ordinance making a 28 determination shall be served, within 10 days after the final 29 adoption of the ordinance making such determination, upon each 30 person who received notice of the public hearing in accordance with 31 paragraph (3) of subsection b. of this section in the same manner as 32 provided therein. The notice shall inform the recipient of the right 33 to appeal the designation and shall provide the recipient with the 34 relevant deadlines for filing an appeal. Additionally, notice of final 35 adoption of an ordinance making a determination shall be published 36 in the official newspaper of the municipality, together with the date 37 of the first publication of such notice and also a statement that any 38 action or proceeding of any kind or nature in any court questioning 39 the validity of the adoption of the ordinance or the determination 40 contained therein, shall be commenced within 45 days after the first 41 publication of such notice. 42 (9) The municipality shall not finally adopt an ordinance 43 adopting a redevelopment plan in accordance with section 7 of

44 P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-7) until 60 days have passed since the

45 ordinance making a determination under this section has been

46 <u>finally adopted.</u>

1 c. An area determined to be in need of redevelopment pursuant 2 to this section shall be deemed to be a "blighted area" for the 3 purposes of Article VIII, Section III, paragraph 1 of the 4 Constitution. If an area is determined to be a redevelopment area 5 and a redevelopment plan is adopted for that area in accordance 6 with the provisions of this act, the municipality is authorized to 7 utilize all those powers provided in section 8 of P.L.1992, c.79 8 (C.40A:12A-8).

9 (cf: P.L.2003, c.125, s.4)

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11 9. Section 7 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-7) is amended to 12 read as follows:

13 7. a. Following the determination of an area in need of redevelopment pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-14 15 6) or a determination of an area in need of rehabilitation pursuant to 16 section 14 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-14), the municipality may 17 undertake the preparation of a redevelopment plan for all or some 18 part of the area determined to be in need of redevelopment or 19 rehabilitation, directly in accordance with subsection e. of this 20 section, or, by resolution, may direct the municipal planning board 21 to develop such plan in accordance with subsection f. of this 22 section. No redevelopment project shall be undertaken or carried 23 out except in accordance with a redevelopment plan adopted by 24 ordinance of the municipal governing body, upon its finding that 25 the] relating to a specifically delineated project area that is located 26 in an area in need of redevelopment or in an area in need of 27 rehabilitation, or in both, according to criteria set forth in section 5 28 or section 14 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 or 40A:12A-14), as 29 appropriate.

30 [The] <u>A</u> redevelopment plan shall include an outline for the 31 planning, development, redevelopment, or rehabilitation of the 32 project area sufficient to indicate:

(1) [Its] <u>The</u> relationship <u>of the plan</u> to [definite] local
objectives as <u>set forth in the municipal master plan or other official</u>
<u>documents with respect</u> to [appropriate] land uses, density of
population, [and improved] <u>improvements or changes to</u> traffic
<u>circulation, pedestrian circulation</u> and public transportation, public
utilities, recreational and community facilities and other public
improvements.

40 (2) Proposed land uses and building requirements in the project
41 area, including the character, intensity and scale of proposed
42 redevelopment activities, and the design and planning standards and
43 guidelines to govern those activities.

(3) [Adequate provision for] <u>A relocation study adequate to</u>
<u>identify available units suitable to</u> the temporary and permanent
relocation, as necessary, of residents <u>and businesses</u> in the project
area, <u>as required by the "Relocation Assistance Act," P.L.1971,</u>

1 c.362 (C.20:4-1 et seq.), including, for residents, an estimate of the 2 extent to which [decent, safe and sanitary dwelling units affordable 3 to displaced residents comparable, affordable replacement housing 4 will be available [to them] in the existing local housing market, an 5 assessment of the disparity between the availability of comparable, 6 affordable replacement housing and the needs of the residents in the 7 project area, an estimate of the amount and type of replacement 8 housing that will have to be provided within or without the 9 redevelopment area in order to meet the relocation needs of 10 residents in the project area, and a plan setting forth the manner and 11 timetable in which that housing, if needed, will be provided.

12 (4) An identification, by block and lot and street address, if any, 13 of any property within the redevelopment area which is proposed to 14 be acquired in accordance with the redevelopment plan, including 15 an identification for each parcel of the objectives of the 16 redevelopment plan which cannot be realistically achieved without 17 the taking of such property, a consideration of alternatives to the 18 proposed taking, and the reasons that such alternatives do not 19 provide for realistic achievement of the objectives of the 20 redevelopment plan.

(5) Any significant relationship of the redevelopment plan to (a)
the master plans of contiguous municipalities, (b) the master plan of
the county in which the municipality is located, and (c) the State
Development and Redevelopment Plan adopted pursuant to the
"State Planning Act," P.L.1985, c.398 (C.52:18A-196 et al.).

(6) As of the date of the adoption of the resolution finding the
area to be in need of redevelopment, an inventory of all housing
units affordable to low and moderate income households, as defined
pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-304), that are to
be removed as a result of implementation of the redevelopment
plan, whether as a result of subsidies or market conditions, listed by
affordability level, number of bedrooms, and tenure.

33 (7) A plan for the provision, through new construction or 34 substantial rehabilitation of one comparable, affordable replacement 35 housing unit for each affordable housing unit that has been 36 occupied at any time within the last 18 months, that is subject to 37 affordability controls and that is identified as to be removed as a 38 result of implementation of the redevelopment plan. Displaced 39 residents of housing units provided under any State or federal 40 housing subsidy program, or pursuant to the "Fair Housing Act," 41 P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-301 et al.), provided they are deemed to 42 be eligible, shall have first priority for those replacement units 43 provided under the plan; provided that any such replacement unit 44 shall not be credited against a prospective municipal obligation 45 under the "Fair Housing Act," P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-301 et 46 al.), if the housing unit which is removed had previously been 47 credited toward satisfying the municipal fair share obligation. To 48 the extent reasonably feasible, replacement housing shall be

1 provided within or in close proximity to the redevelopment area. A 2 municipality shall report annually to the Department of Community 3 Affairs on its progress in implementing the plan for provision of 4 comparable, affordable replacement housing required pursuant to 5 this section. 6 (8) The social and economic impact of the redevelopment area, 7 including its effect on those parts of the municipality adjacent to the 8 redevelopment area, and on the low and moderate income residents 9 of the area. 10 (9) An explanation of how any development controls contained 11 in the redevelopment plan are consistent with smart growth 12 planning principles adopted pursuant to law or regulation. 13 (10) Preservation or conservation strategies and goals for the 14 assets contained in the inventory of environmental, historical and 15 cultural assets in the delineated project area. 16 b. [A] <u>In addition to that housing provided pursuant to</u> 17 paragraph (7) of subsection a. of this section, a redevelopment plan 18 may include the provision of affordable housing in accordance with 19 the "Fair Housing Act," P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-301 et al.) and 20 the housing element of the municipal master plan. 21 c. The redevelopment plan shall describe its relationship to 22 pertinent municipal development regulations as defined in the 23 "Municipal Land Use Law," P.L.1975, c.291 (C.40:55D-1 et seq.). 24 The redevelopment plan shall supersede applicable provisions of the 25 development regulations of the municipality or constitute an 26 overlay zoning district within the redevelopment area. When the 27 redevelopment plan supersedes any provision of the development 28 regulations, the ordinance adopting the redevelopment plan shall 29 contain an explicit amendment to the zoning district map included 30 in the zoning ordinance. The zoning district map as amended shall 31 indicate the redevelopment area to which the redevelopment plan 32 applies. [Notwithstanding the provisions of the "Municipal Land 33 Use Law," P.L.1975, c.291 (C.40:55D-1 et seq.) or of other law, no 34 notice beyond that required for adoption of ordinances by the 35 municipality shall be required for the hearing on or adoption of the 36 redevelopment plan or subsequent amendments thereof. 37 All provisions of the redevelopment plan shall be either d. 38 substantially consistent with the municipal master plan or designed 39 to effectuate the master plan; but the municipal governing body may 40 adopt a redevelopment plan which is inconsistent with or not

adopt a redevelopment plan which is inconsistent with or not
designed to effectuate the master plan by affirmative vote of a
majority of its full authorized membership with the reasons for so
acting set forth in the redevelopment plan.
e. [Prior to the adoption of a redevelopment plan, or revision or

amendment thereto, the <u>If a municipality prepares a redevelopment</u>
plan directly, the municipal governing body shall refer the proposed

47 redevelopment plan to the municipal planning board for review.

1 Such referral may be by resolution. The municipal planning board 2 shall transmit to the governing body, within 45 days after referral, a 3 report containing its recommendation concerning the redevelopment 4 plan. This report shall include an identification of any provisions in 5 the proposed redevelopment plan which are inconsistent with the 6 master plan and recommendations concerning these inconsistencies 7 and any other matters as the board deems appropriate. The 8 governing body, when considering the adoption of a redevelopment 9 plan or revision or amendment thereof, shall review the report of 10 the planning board and may approve or disapprove or change any 11 recommendation by a vote of a majority of its full authorized 12 membership and shall record in its minutes the reasons for not 13 following the recommendations. Failure of the planning board to 14 transmit its report within the required 45 days shall relieve the 15 governing body from the requirements of this subsection with 16 regard to the pertinent proposed redevelopment plan [or revision or amendment thereof]. Nothing in this subsection shall diminish the 17 18 applicability of the provisions of subsection d. of this section with 19 respect to any redevelopment plan or revision or amendment 20 thereof.

21 f. The governing body of a municipality may direct the planning 22 board to prepare a redevelopment plan [or an amendment or 23 revision to a redevelopment plan for a designated redevelopment 24 area. After completing the redevelopment plan, the planning board 25 shall transmit the proposed plan to the governing body for its 26 adoption. The governing body, when considering the proposed 27 plan, may amend or revise any portion of the proposed redevelopment plan by an affirmative vote of the majority of its full 28 29 authorized membership and shall record in its minutes the reasons 30 for each amendment or revision. When a redevelopment plan [or 31 amendment to a redevelopment plan] is referred to the governing 32 body by the planning board under this subsection, the governing 33 body shall be relieved of the referral requirements of subsection e. 34 of this section.

35 g. Within 60 days after the governing body or planning board 36 begins preparation of the redevelopment plan, the governing body 37 or planning board shall conduct a public hearing on the goals and 38 content of the redevelopment plan. Notice of the public hearing 39 shall state the date, time, and location of the public hearing, shall 40 identify the borders of the area for which a plan is being developed. 41 A copy of the notice of the public hearing shall be published in a 42 newspaper of general circulation in the municipality once each 43 week for two consecutive weeks, and the last publication shall be 44 not less than 10 days prior to the date set for the hearing, and shall 45 be posted on the municipality's Internet web site, if any, and in such 46 other public places within or proximate to the proposed 47 redevelopment area as may be available and appropriate. A copy of

1 the notice shall be mailed by the municipal clerk at least ten days 2 prior to the date set for the hearing to the last owner, if any, of each 3 parcel of property and any legal tenant of a residential rental dwelling unit, within the area according to the assessment records 4 5 of the municipality. The municipal clerk shall make a diligent 6 effort to ascertain the names and addresses of legal tenants of rental 7 dwelling units by contacting the legal owner of the rental property 8 or a management company identified by such owner, but if unable 9 to do so shall have a copy of the notice posted on properties known 10 to be rental dwelling units. At such public hearing, the municipal 11 governing body shall hear all persons who are interested in or 12 would be affected by the redevelopment plan, although the planning 13 board or governing body may, by vote of its majority, restrict or 14 limit the amount of time afforded each such person to speak. A 15 record of the public hearing shall be kept by the municipal clerk. 16 h. Amendments to redevelopment plans shall be prepared and 17 adopted in the same manner provided for a redevelopment plan. 18 i. The redevelopment plan shall be adopted by ordinance of the 19 municipal governing body. Prior to final adoption of the ordinance, 20 the municipal governing body shall conduct a public hearing on the 21 ordinance and all interested persons shall be allowed to speak. 22 Notice of the public hearing shall state the date, time, and location 23 of the public hearing, shall identify where the proposed 24 redevelopment plan is available for examination and shall identify, 25 by block and lot and street address, if any, the parcels that may be subject to eminent domain under the proposed redevelopment plan. 26 27 The full text of the redevelopment plan to be considered by the 28 governing body along with any maps or other exhibits thereto, shall 29 be made available to the public in the municipal building and shall 30 be posted on the municipality's Internet web site, if any, at the time such notice to such hearing is to be provided. Copies of the 31 32 proposed redevelopment plan shall be available for purchase by any 33 interested party. A copy of the notice of the public hearing shall be 34 published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality 35 once each week for two consecutive weeks, and the last publication 36 shall be not less than 10 days prior to the date set for the hearing, 37 and shall be posted on the municipality's Internet web site and in 38 such other public places within or proximate to the proposed 39 redevelopment area as may be available and appropriate. A copy of 40 the notice shall be mailed by the municipal clerk at least 10 days 41 prior to the date set for the hearing to the last owner, if any, of each 42 parcel of property and any legal tenant of a residential rental 43 dwelling unit, within the area according to the assessment records 44 of the municipality. The municipal clerk shall make a diligent 45 effort to ascertain the names and addresses of legal tenants of 46 residential rental dwelling units by contacting the legal owner of the 47 rental property or a management company identified by such owner, 48 but if unable to do so shall have a copy of the notice posted on

1 properties known to contain residential rental dwelling units. For property owners whose properties do not exhibit conditions of 2 3 blight and are proposed to be acquired under the redevelopment 4 plan, the notice shall specify the reason why acquiring the property 5 is necessary for the redevelopment of the area. A notice shall also 6 be sent by the municipal clerk to all persons at their last known 7 address, if any, whose names are noted on the assessment records as 8 claimants of an interest in any such parcel. The assessor of the 9 municipality shall make a notation upon the records when requested 10 to do so by any person claiming to have an interest in any parcel of 11 property in the municipality. The notice shall be published and mailed by the municipal clerk. Failure to mail any such notice shall 12 13 not invalidate the redevelopment plan. At such public hearing, the 14 municipal governing body shall hear all persons who are interested 15 in or would be affected by the provisions of the redevelopment 16 plan, although the governing body may, by vote of its majority, 17 restrict or limit the amount of time afforded each such person to 18 speak. A record of the public hearing shall be kept by the 19 municipal clerk. Upon the close of the public hearing, the 20 municipal governing body may vote to finally adopt the ordinance. 21 Notice of final adoption of an ordinance adopting a 22 redevelopment plan shall be served, within 10 days after the final 23 adoption of the ordinance making such determination, upon each 24 person who received notice of the public hearing in accordance with 25 subsection h. of this section in the same manner as provided therein. 26 Additionally, notice of final adoption of an ordinance making a 27 determination shall be published in the official newspaper of the 28 municipality, together with the date of the first publication of such 29 notice and also a statement that any action or proceeding of any 30 kind or nature in any court questioning the validity of the adoption 31 of the ordinance or the determination contained therein, shall be 32 commenced within 45 days after the first publication of such notice. 33 k. The municipality may not finally authorize and execute an 34 agreement with a redeveloper until 60 days next following the final 35 adoption of the ordinance adopting a redevelopment plan pursuant 36 to this section. 37 (cf: P.L.2008, c.46, s.2) 38 39 10. Section 8 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-8) is amended to 40 read as follows:

41 8. Upon the adoption of a redevelopment plan pursuant to 42 section 7 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-7), the municipality or 43 redevelopment entity designated by the governing body may 44 proceed with the clearance, replanning, development and 45 redevelopment of the area designated in that plan. In order to carry 46 out and effectuate the purposes of this act and the terms of the 47 redevelopment plan, the municipality or designated redevelopment 48 entity may:

1 a. Undertake redevelopment projects, and for this purpose issue 2 bonds in accordance with the provisions of section 29 of P.L.1992, 3 c.79 (C.40A:12A-29). 4 b. Acquire property pursuant to subsection i. of section 22 of 5 P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-22). 6 c. Acquire, by condemnation, any land or building in or upon 7 which a condition set forth in section 5 of P.L.1992, c.79 8 (C.40A:12A-5) is present and which is necessary for the 9 redevelopment project, pursuant to the provisions of the "Eminent 10 Domain Act of 1971," P.L.1971, c.361 (C.20:3-1 et seq.); provided, 11 however, that for properties to be acquired under the terms of an 12 agreement entered into pursuant to a redevelopment plan adopted 13 after the effective date of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the 14 Legislature as this bill), the valuation of such properties shall take 15 into account the uses permitted for such property under the 16 redevelopment plan and shall be based on the date the municipality 17 files the declaration of taking or the date of adoption of the 18 redevelopment plan, whichever yields the higher valuation. For 19 residential properties, if neither of these two valuations is equal to 20 or more than the "replacement value" of the home, then the 21 valuation of such properties must be at least the "replacement 22 value" of the home, which shall be defined as the approximate value 23 of a home of similar size and quality under comparable conditions, 24 within the municipality and within a reasonable distance of the 25 property being condemned. Furthermore, persons displaced 26 pursuant to implementation of a redevelopment plan shall be 27 entitled to all rights and benefits provided under the Uniform 28 Transportation Replacement Housing and Relocation Act, P.L.1972, 29 c.47 (C.27:7-72 et seq.), and rules and regulations adopted in 30 accordance thereof. 31 d. Clear any area owned or acquired and install, construct or 32 reconstruct streets, facilities, utilities, and site improvements 33 essential to the preparation of sites for use in accordance with the 34 redevelopment plan. 35 Prepare or arrange by contract for the provision of e. 36 professional services and the preparation of plans by registered 37 architects, licensed professional engineers or planners, or other 38 consultants for the carrying out of redevelopment projects. 39 f. Arrange or contract with public agencies or redevelopers for 40 the planning, replanning, construction, or undertaking of any 41 project or redevelopment work, or any part thereof; negotiate and 42 collect revenue from a redeveloper to defray the costs of the 43 redevelopment entity, including where applicable the costs incurred

44 in conjunction with bonds, notes or other obligations issued by the 45 redevelopment entity, and to secure payment of such revenue; as 46 part of any such arrangement or contract, provide for extension of 47 credit, or making of loans, to redevelopers to finance any project or 48 redevelopment work, or upon a finding that the project or

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1 redevelopment work would not be undertaken but for the provision 2 of financial assistance, or would not be undertaken in its intended 3 scope without the provision of financial assistance, provide as part 4 of an arrangement or contract for capital grants to redevelopers; and 5 arrange or contract with public agencies or redevelopers for the 6 opening, grading or closing of streets, roads, roadways, alleys, or 7 other places or for the furnishing of facilities or for the acquisition 8 by such agency of property options or property rights or for the 9 furnishing of property or services in connection with a 10 redevelopment area.

11 g. Except with regard to property subject to the requirements of 12 P.L.2008, c.65 (C.40A:5-14.2 et al.), lease or convey property or 13 improvements to any other party pursuant to this section, without 14 public bidding and at such prices and upon such terms as it deems 15 reasonable, provided that the lease or conveyance is made in 16 conjunction with a redevelopment plan, notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary.] (Deleted 17 18 by amendment, P.L., c. .) (pending before the Legislature as this 19 bill)

h. Enter upon any building or property in any redevelopment
area in order to conduct investigations or make surveys, sounding or
test borings necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

i. Arrange or contract with a public agency for the relocation,
pursuant to the "Relocation Assistance Law of 1967," P.L.1967,
c.79 (C.52:31B-1 et seq.) and the "Relocation Assistance Act,"
P.L.1971, c.362 (C.20:4-1 et seq.), of residents, industry or
commerce displaced from a redevelopment area.

j. Make, consistent with the redevelopment plan: (1) plans for 28 29 carrying out a program of voluntary repair and rehabilitation of 30 buildings and improvements; and (2) plans for the enforcement of 31 laws, codes, and regulations relating to the use and occupancy of 32 buildings and improvements, and to the compulsory repair, 33 rehabilitation, demolition, or removal of buildings and 34 improvements.

k. Request that the planning board recommend and governing
body designate particular areas as being in need of redevelopment
or rehabilitation in accordance with the provisions of this act and
make recommendations for the redevelopment or rehabilitation of
such areas.

40 l. Study the recommendations of the planning board or41 governing body for redevelopment of the area.

42 m. Publish and disseminate information concerning any43 redevelopment area, plan or project.

n. Do all things necessary or convenient to carry out its powers.

45 (cf: P.L.1992, c.79, s.8)

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47 11. Section 14 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-14) is amended to48 read as follows:

1 14. a. A delineated area may be determined to be in need of 2 rehabilitation if the governing body of the municipality determines 3 by resolution that a program of rehabilitation, as defined in section 4 3 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-3), may be expected to prevent 5 further deterioration and promote the overall development of the 6 community and that there exist in that area conditions such that: 7 a significant portion of structures therein are in a (1)8 deteriorated or substandard condition and there is a continuing 9 pattern of vacancy, abandonment or underutilization of properties in 10 the area, [with] which may be reflected in a persistent arrearage of 11 property tax payments thereon; [or] 12 (2) [more than half] <u>a significant amount</u> of the housing stock 13 In the delineated area is at least 50 years old, or a majority of the 14 water and sewer] or infrastructure in the delineated area, or both, is at least 50 years old and is in need of repair or substantial 15 16 maintenance; [and] 17 a program of rehabilitation, as defined in section 3 of (3) 18 P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-3), may be expected to prevent further 19 deterioration and promote the overall development of the 20 community (Deleted by amendment, P.L., c.) (pending before 21 the Legislature as this bill); 22 (4) areas with buildings or improvements evidencing 23 dilapidation, obsolescence, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light and sanitary facilities, excessive 24 25 land coverage, deleterious land use or obsolete layout, or any 26 combination of these or other factors; or 27 (5) a growing lack or total lack of proper utilization of areas 28 resulting in a stagnant or not fully productive condition of land 29 potentially useful and valuable for contributing to and serving the 30 public health, safety, and welfare. 31 The resolution determining that the area is in need of 32 rehabilitation shall be based upon a written report documenting the 33 conditions that provide the basis for the determination that the area 34 is in need of rehabilitation. Where warranted by consideration of 35 the overall conditions and requirements of the community, a finding 36 of need for rehabilitation may extend to the entire area of a 37 municipality. Prior to adoption of the resolution, the governing 38 body shall submit [it] the proposed resolution together with the 39 report that provides the basis for the determination to the municipal 40 planning board for its review. Within 45 days of its receipt of the 41 proposed resolution, the municipal planning board shall submit its 42 recommendations regarding the proposed resolution, including any 43 modifications which it may recommend, to the governing body for 44 its consideration. Thereafter, or after the expiration of the 45 days 45 if the municipal planning board does not submit recommendations, 46 the governing body may adopt the resolution, with or without 47 modification. The resolution shall not become effective without the

1 approval of the commissioner pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1992, 2 c.79 (C.40A:12A-6), if otherwise required pursuant to that section. 3 b. A delineated area shall be deemed to have been determined to 4 be an area in need of rehabilitation in accordance with the 5 provisions of this act if it has heretofore been determined to be an 6 area in need of rehabilitation pursuant to P.L.1975, c.104 (C.54:4-7 3.72 et seq.), P.L.1977, c.12 (C.54:4-3.95 et seq.) or P.L.1979, 8 c.233 (C.54:4-3.121 et seq.). 9 (1) A municipality may adopt an ordinance declaring a с. 10 renovation housing project to be an area in need of rehabilitation for

the purposes of Article VIII, Section I, paragraph 6 of the New
Jersey Constitution if the need for renovation resulted from
conflagration.

14 (2) For the purposes of this subsection, "renovation housing 15 project" means any work or undertaking to provide a decent, safe, 16 and sanitary dwelling, to exclusively benefit a specific household, 17 by the renovation, reconstruction, or replacement of the household's 18 home on the same lot by either a charitable entity organized to 19 perform home renovations or by a for-profit builder using 75% or 20 more volunteer labor-hours to accomplish the construction for the 21 project. The undertaking may include any buildings; demolition, 22 clearance, or removal of buildings from land; equipment; facilities; 23 or other personal properties or interests therein which are necessary, 24 convenient, or desirable appurtenances of the undertaking.

25 (1) A municipality may adopt an ordinance declaring a d. 26 renovation housing project to be an area in need of rehabilitation for 27 the purposes of Article VIII, Section I, paragraph 6 of the New 28 Jersey Constitution if at least half of the number of people 29 occupying the dwelling as their primary residence qualify for a 30 federal income tax credit pursuant to 26 U.S.C. s.22 as a result of 31 being permanently and totally disabled and the improvements to be 32 made to the dwelling are made substantially to accommodate those 33 disabilities.

34 (2) For the purposes of this subsection, "renovation housing 35 project" means any work or undertaking to provide a decent, safe, and sanitary single-family dwelling, to exclusively benefit at least 36 37 half of the number of people occupying a dwelling as their primary 38 residence, by the renovation, reconstruction, or replacement of that 39 dwelling on the same lot by either a charitable entity organized to 40 perform home renovations or by a for-profit builder using 75% or 41 more volunteer labor-hours to accomplish the construction for the 42 project. The undertaking may include any buildings; demolition, 43 clearance, or removal of buildings from land; equipment; facilities; 44 or other personal properties or interests therein which are necessary, 45 convenient, or desirable appurtenances of the undertaking.

46 (cf: P.L.2007, c.91, s.1)

1 12. Section 15 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C40A:12A-15) is amended to 2 read as follows: 3 15. In accordance with the provisions of a redevelopment plan 4 adopted pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-7), a 5 municipality or redevelopment entity may proceed with clearance, 6 conservation, development, redevelopment replanning, and 7 rehabilitation of an area in need of rehabilitation. [With respect to 8 a redevelopment project in] In an area in need of rehabilitation, the 9 municipality or redevelopment entity, upon the adoption of a 10 redevelopment plan for the area, may perform any of the actions set 11 forth in section 8 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-8), except that 12 [with respect to such a project] the municipality shall not have the 13 power to <u>use eminent domain to</u> take or acquire private property by 14 condemnation in furtherance of a redevelopment plan, unless [: a. 15 the area is within an area determined to be in need of 16 redevelopment pursuant to this act; or b. exercise of that power is 17 authorized under any other law of this State. 18 (cf: P.L.1992, c.79, s.15) 19 20 13. Section 19 of P.L.1975, c.291 (C.40:55D-28) is amended to 21 read as follows: 22 19. Preparation; contents; modification. a. The planning board 23 may prepare and, after public hearing, adopt or amend a master plan 24 or component parts thereof, to guide the use of lands within the 25 municipality in a manner which protects public health and safety 26 and promotes the general welfare. 27 The master plan shall generally comprise a report or b. 28 statement and land use and development proposals, with maps, 29 diagrams and text, presenting, at least the following elements (1) 30 and (2) and, where appropriate, the following elements (3) through 31 **[**(16)**]**(<u>17)</u>: 32 (1) A statement of objectives, principles, assumptions, policies 33 and standards upon which the constituent proposals for the physical, 34 economic and social development of the municipality are based; 35 (2) A land use plan element (a) taking into account and stating 36 its relationship to the statement provided for in paragraph (1) hereof, and other master plan elements provided for in paragraphs 37 38 (3) through [(16)] (17) hereof and natural conditions, including, 39 but not necessarily limited to, topography, soil conditions, water 40 supply, drainage, flood plain areas, marshes, and woodlands; (b) 41 showing the existing and proposed location, extent and intensity of

development of land to be used in the future for varying types of residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, educational and other public and private purposes or combination of purposes; and stating the relationship thereof to the existing and any proposed zone plan and zoning ordinance; and (c) showing the existing and proposed location of any airports and the boundaries of

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1 any airport safety zones delineated pursuant to the "Air Safety and 2 Zoning Act of 1983," P.L.1983, c.260 (C.6:1-80 et seq.); and (d) 3 including a statement of the standards of population density and 4 development intensity recommended for the municipality;

5 (3) A housing plan element pursuant to section 10 of P.L.1985, 6 c.222 (C.52:27D-310), including, but not limited to, residential 7 standards and proposals for the construction and improvement of 8 housing;

9 (4) A circulation plan element showing the location and types of 10 facilities for all modes of transportation required for the efficient 11 movement of people and goods into, about, and through the municipality, taking into account the functional highway 12 13 classification system of the Federal Highway Administration and 14 the types, locations, conditions and availability of existing and 15 proposed transportation facilities, including air, water, road and rail; 16 (5) A utility service plan element analyzing the need for and 17 showing the future general location of water supply and distribution 18 facilities, drainage and flood control facilities, sewerage and waste 19 treatment, solid waste disposal and provision for other related 20 utilities, and including any storm water management plan required 21 pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1981, c.32 (C.40:55D-93 et seq.). 22 If a municipality prepares a utility service plan element as a 23 condition for adopting a development transfer ordinance pursuant to 24 subsection c. of section 4 of P.L.2004, c.2 (C.40:55D-140), the plan 25 element shall address the provision of utilities in the receiving zone 26 as provided thereunder;

27 (6) A community facilities plan element showing the existing 28 and proposed location and type of educational or cultural facilities, 29 historic sites, libraries, hospitals, firehouses, police stations and 30 other related facilities, including their relation to the surrounding 31 areas:

32 (7) A recreation plan element showing a comprehensive system 33 of areas and public sites for recreation;

34 (8) A conservation plan element providing for the preservation, 35 conservation, and utilization of natural resources, including, to the extent appropriate, energy, open space, water supply, forests, soil, 36 37 marshes, wetlands, harbors, rivers and other waters, fisheries, 38 endangered or threatened species wildlife and other resources, and 39 which systemically analyzes the impact of each other component 40 and element of the master plan on the present and future 41 preservation, conservation and utilization of those resources;

42 An economic plan element considering all aspects of (9) 43 economic development and sustained economic vitality, including 44 (a) a comparison of the types of employment expected to be 45 provided by the economic development to be promoted with the 46 characteristics of the labor pool resident in the municipality and 47 nearby areas and (b) an analysis of the stability and diversity of the 48 economic development to be promoted;

1 (10) A historic preservation plan element: (a) indicating the 2 location and significance of historic sites and historic districts; (b) 3 identifying the standards used to assess worthiness for historic site 4 or district identification; and (c) analyzing the impact of each 5 component and element of the master plan on the preservation of 6 historic sites and districts;

7 (11) Appendices or separate reports containing the technical8 foundation for the master plan and its constituent elements;

9 (12) A recycling plan element which incorporates the State 10 Recycling Plan goals, including provisions for the collection, 11 disposition and recycling of recyclable materials designated in the 12 municipal recycling ordinance, and for the collection, disposition and recycling of recyclable materials within any development 13 14 proposal for the construction of 50 or more units of single-family 15 residential housing or 25 or more units of multi-family residential 16 housing and any commercial or industrial development proposal for 17 the utilization of 1,000 square feet or more of land;

18 (13) A farmland preservation plan element, which shall include: 19 an inventory of farm properties and a map illustrating significant 20 areas of agricultural land; a statement showing that municipal 21 ordinances support and promote agriculture as a business; and a 22 plan for preserving as much farmland as possible in the short term 23 by leveraging monies made available by P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-24 1 et al.) through a variety of mechanisms including, but not limited 25 to, utilizing option agreements, installment purchases, and 26 encouraging donations of permanent development easements; [and]

(14) A development transfer plan element which sets forth the
public purposes, the locations of sending and receiving zones and
the technical details of a development transfer program based on the
provisions of section 5 of P.L.2004, c.2 (C.40:55D-141);

(15) An educational facilities plan element which incorporates
the purposes and goals of the "long-range facilities plan" required to
be submitted to the Commissioner of Education by a school district
pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2000, c.72 (C.18A:7G-4); [and]

35 (16) A green buildings and environmental sustainability plan element, which shall provide for, encourage, and promote the 36 37 efficient use of natural resources and the installation and usage of 38 renewable energy systems; consider the impact of buildings on the 39 local, regional and global environment; allow ecosystems to 40 function naturally; conserve and reuse water; treat storm water on-41 site; and optimize climatic conditions through site orientation and 42 design; and

(17) A redevelopment plan element identifying all areas that
have been designated in need of redevelopment or rehabilitation in
the municipality as well as additional areas that may be so
designated in the future, the goals and objectives of projected
redevelopment activities in those areas during the time period
covered by the master plan, the manner in which those activities

1 further the social, economic, and physical improvement of the 2 municipality, and the manner in which redevelopment activities are 3 linked to other activities being carried out by the municipality 4 pursuant to the municipal master plan, including improvements to 5 infrastructure, transportation improvements, and the construction of 6 public and community facilities. 7 c. The master plan and its plan elements may be divided into 8 subplans and subplan elements projected according to periods of 9 time or staging sequences. 10 d. The master plan shall include a specific policy statement 11 indicating the relationship of the proposed development of the 12 municipality, as developed in the master plan to (1) the master plans 13 of contiguous municipalities, (2) the master plan of the county in 14 which the municipality is located, (3) the State Development and 15 Redevelopment Plan adopted pursuant to the "State Planning Act," 16 sections 1 through 12 of P.L.1985, c.398 (C.52:18A-196 et seq.) 17 and (4) the district solid waste management plan required pursuant 18 to the provisions of the "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, 19 c.39 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.) of the county in which the municipality is 20 located.

In the case of a municipality situated within the Highlands Region, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), the master plan shall include a specific policy statement indicating the relationship of the proposed development of the municipality, as developed in the master plan, to the Highlands regional master plan adopted pursuant to section 8 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-8).

- 27 (cf: P.L.2008, c.54, s.1)
- 28

14. (New section) a. Whenever a redevelopment project or
projects involve the conveyance of land owned by the municipality,
or any project, 20% or more of which will be constructed upon land
subject to acquisition by the municipality or redevelopment entity
pursuant to the redevelopment plan, the municipality shall approve,
by ordinance, a written agreement designating a redeveloper
selected in accordance with this section.

36 b. The municipality or redevelopment entity shall prepare or 37 have prepared request for proposal documentation, which shall include: all requirements deemed appropriate and necessary to 38 39 allow for full and free competition between potential redevelopers; 40 information necessary for potential redevelopers to submit a 41 proposal, including a copy of the redevelopment plan, a general 42 description of the project or projects, and such municipal public 43 records relating to buildings and improvements within the 44 redevelopment area, including, but not limited to, services provided 45 by public utilities, building permit, and assessment records; and a 46 methodology by which the municipality will evaluate and rank 47 proposals received from potential redevelopers.

c. The methodology for selecting a redeveloper shall be based
 on an evaluation and ranking which may include overall design,
 technical expertise, demonstrated experience on projects similar to
 the proposed project, the ability to finance the proposed project, and
 such other stated criteria as the municipality shall deem relevant.

6 d. At no time during the proposal solicitation process shall the 7 municipality or redevelopment entity, or any employee or agent 8 thereof, convey information to the public or any potential 9 redeveloper which could confer an unfair advantage upon that 10 potential redeveloper over any other potential redeveloper. If the 11 municipality or redevelopment entity desires to change proposal 12 documentation, the municipality or redevelopment entity shall 13 notify only those potential redevelopers who received the proposal 14 documentation of any and all changes in writing, and all existing documentation shall be changed appropriately. 15

e. All proposals shall be required to contain a statement of corporate ownership in accordance with the provisions of section 1 of P.L.1977, c.33 (C.52:25-24.2) and specifications concerning equal employment opportunity and affirmative action pursuant to P.L.1975, c.127 (C.10:5-31 et seq.)

21 f. A notice of the availability of request for proposal 22 documentation shall be published in an official newspaper of the 23 municipality at least 30 days prior to the date established for the 24 submission of proposals. Such notice shall provide the name, 25 address, and phone number of the person who can provide 26 additional information and a proposal document to an interested 27 party. The municipality or redevelopment entity shall promptly 28 reply to any request by an interested party by providing a copy of 29 the request for proposals. The municipality or redevelopment entity 30 may charge a fee for the proposal documentation that shall not 31 exceed \$50 or the cost of reproducing the documentation, 32 whichever is greater.

g. Each interested potential redeveloper shall submit a proposal
which shall include all the information required by the request for
proposals. Failure to meet the requirements of the request for
proposals may result in the municipality or redevelopment entity
disqualifying the potential redeveloper from further consideration.

38 h. The municipality or redevelopment entity shall review and 39 evaluate all proposals only in accordance with the methodology 40 described in the request for proposals. The review shall be 41 conducted in a manner that avoids disclosure of the contents of any 42 proposal prior to the selection of a redeveloper. The municipality 43 or redevelopment entity may conduct discussions with a potential 44 redeveloper submitting a proposal for the purpose of clarifying the 45 information submitted in the proposal. The municipality or 46 redevelopment entity may at any time revise its proposal document 47 after the review of the submitted proposals if it notifies simultaneously, and in writing, each potential redeveloper that 48

submitted a proposal of the revision and provides a uniform time
 within which the potential redevelopers may submit a revised
 proposal for review.

4 i. The municipality or redevelopment entity shall select the 5 proposal that received the highest evaluation and shall negotiate an 6 agreement with the potential redeveloper that submitted the selected 7 proposal. If the municipality or redevelopment entity is unable to 8 negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the potential redeveloper 9 that submitted the selected proposal, it may select the proposal that 10 received the second highest evaluation from among those submitted 11 and proceed to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the potential 12 redeveloper that submitted that proposal. The process shall continue until a redeveloper is selected or the process is abandoned 13 14 by the municipality or redevelopment entity. The decision to 15 abandon the proposal process shall be by a resolution adopted by 16 the governing body of the municipality or redevelopment entity.

17 j. After a redeveloper has been selected and a satisfactory 18 agreement has been negotiated, but prior to the execution of the 19 agreement by the governing body or redevelopment entity, the 20 municipality or redevelopment entity shall prepare a report 21 concerning the proposal selection process. The report shall list the 22 names of all potential redevelopers who submitted a proposal and 23 shall summarize the proposals of each potential redeveloper. The 24 report shall (1) rank the potential redevelopers in order of 25 evaluation; (2) summarize, in general terms, any unsuccessful 26 negotiations with potential redevelopers that submitted proposals 27 which were ranked higher than the proposal of the selected 28 redeveloper; (3) recommend the selected redeveloper; and (4) 29 summarize the project to be undertaken and the relevant terms of 30 the proposed agreement. The report shall be made available to the 31 public at least 48 hours prior to the introduction of an ordinance 32 authorizing an agreement with the redeveloper.

k. The governing body of the municipality or redevelopment
entity shall have the right to reject all proposals for any reason, but
such reason must be given and the municipality shall not authorize
another request for proposals concerning the same project or
projects for a period of 30 days after the date of rejection or
abandonment by the governing body.

I. Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of a
municipality to convey property within a redevelopment area for
nominal consideration to any of the entities designated in section 21
of the "Local Lands and Buildings Law," P.L.1971, c.199
(C.40A:12-21) for any of the uses set forth therein, and to enter into
redevelopment agreements with such entities for such uses without
complying with the provisions of this section.

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47 15. (New section) If any agreement between a redevelopment48 entity and a redeveloper shall provide for the use or potential use of

1 eminent domain by the redevelopment entity, such agreement shall contain: 2 3 a. a block and lot identification of all parcels which may be 4 subject to eminent domain at the request of the redeveloper; 5 b. a schedule of acquisition by the redeveloper; and 6 a provision stating that the ability of the redeveloper to c. 7 request acquisition by eminent domain shall lapse within five years 8 of the effective date of the agreement, which provision may only be 9 further extended by an ordinance enacted by the governing body 10 after notice to any property owner whose rights will be directly 11 affected by such an extension. 12 All mandatory schedules and time limitations within these provisions may be subject to tolling for any contingencies set forth 13 14 in the agreement. 15 16 16. (New section) Every resident displaced as a result of a 17 redevelopment project shall have a limited right of first refusal to 18 purchase or lease a dwelling unit subsequently constructed within 19 the redevelopment project as set forth in this section: 20 a. At such time residents are provided notice pursuant to the 21 Workable Relocation Assistance Plan pursuant to law or regulation 22 adopted pursuant thereto, they shall be provided with the 23 opportunity to have their names entered into a registry of residents 24 seeking the opportunity to purchase or lease a dwelling unit in the 25 redevelopment project. The registry shall be maintained by the 26 municipal relocation officer designated under the Workable 27 Relocation Assistance Plan. 28 At such time that any residential development containing b. 29 more than 10 dwelling units shall be constructed in any 30 redevelopment area as a redevelopment project, the developer shall 31 notify each individual on the registry, by registered mail and by e-32 mail to their last known mailing or e-mail address, as may be 33 available, of their opportunity to purchase or lease a dwelling unit. 34 It shall be the sole responsibility of the individual to maintain a 35 current mailing address with the registry, and the developer shall be 36 under no obligation to provide notice except as set forth in this 37 subsection. 38 c. From the date of mailing of the notice, the individuals on the 39 registry shall have 14 business days before the units in such 40 development are offered to the general public in order to enter into 41 a contract of purchase or a lease for a unit in the development. Such 42 contract or lease shall be on the same terms and at the same price as 43 those on which the unit is initially offered to the general public. 44 45 17. (New section) a. For all areas determined to be in need of 46 redevelopment, the municipality shall submit to the Department of 47 Community Affairs a map outlining the physical boundaries of the 48 redevelopment area, the preliminary investigation report, and a

1 copy of the ordinance making the determination. This information 2 shall be transmitted within 60 days of the effective date of this act 3 for areas determined to be in need of redevelopment on or prior to 4 the effective date of this act, or within 10 days after the area is 5 determined to be in need of redevelopment after the effective date 6 of this act.

b. For all condemnations of properties that occur pursuant to
subsection c. of section 8 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-8), the
municipality shall submit to the Department of Community Affairs
record of the condemnation and the compensation provided to the
property owner within 10 days of the taking.

12 c. Each year the Department of Community Affairs shall issue a 13 report that lists the location of all areas currently determined to be in need of redevelopment in New Jersey; basic data for each area 14 15 about its size, and population, the status of the redevelopment plan 16 implementation, and the length of time the area has been designated 17 as an area in need of redevelopment; and the number of times 18 eminent domain has been used in each redevelopment area, and data 19 on compensation received by property owners, where available. 20 This report shall be made available to the general public upon 21 request and on the Department of Community Affairs Internet web 22 site.

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24 18. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month 25 next following enactment. Any final action taken by a municipality 26 or redevelopment entity with respect to: a determination that an area 27 is in need of redevelopment or in need of rehabilitation; adoption of a redevelopment plan; or designation of a redeveloper, prior to the 28 29 effective date of this act shall have full force and effect, but any 30 subsequent official action by the municipality or redevelopment 31 entity after the effective date of this act shall be subject to its 32 provisions.

STATEMENT

37 This bill provides a reform of current eminent domain law as it pertains to municipal redevelopment programs. The bill ensures 38 39 that affected property owners and the general public are provided 40 adequate notice of a municipality's interest in inaugurating a 41 redevelopment program; affords such stakeholders the opportunity 42 to be heard during the process undertaken to develop such 43 programs; adds transparency to the exercise of eminent domain; 44 creates certainty that redevelopment programs are authorized and 45 undertaken in a deliberative and open process, free of "pay-to-play" 46 deals; provides that such programs, once properly adopted, are 47 implemented in a fair and certain manner, including a public process, where appropriate, for the selection of redevelopers 48

seeking the assistance of municipal officials in constructing a
 redevelopment project on municipally owned or acquired property;
 provides a just measure of compensation to owners of homes and
 operating businesses, including compensation for loss of business
 income, who are subject to eminent domain; and affords protection
 and finality to such redevelopment programs properly created under
 these heightened standards for enactment.