

**ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 111**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

INTRODUCED JUNE 20, 1996

**By Assemblywoman FRISCIA, Assemblyman DORIA and  
Assemblywoman Turner**

- 1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the Governor to rescind contracts  
2 between the State and certain vendors.  
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- 4 **WHEREAS**, On March 20, 1996, agents of the federal Immigration and  
5 Naturalization Service arrested, as non-citizens working illegally, 24  
6 janitorial personnel employed in the State House complex and the  
7 Department of Environmental Protection building, and immediately  
8 deported five of the 24 janitors, based on outstanding warrants or  
9 voluntary acquiescence; and
- 10 **WHEREAS**, The 24 arrested janitors represented a majority of the 38 janitors  
11 then working at those sites under two contracts between the State  
12 government and the private contractors who employed the janitors,  
13 Building Maintenance Systems, Inc. and the Trenton Janitorial Supply  
14 Company; and
- 15 **WHEREAS**, The State's decision in 1994 and 1995 to contract out to those  
16 firms more than one million dollars per year of janitorial work at those and  
17 six other buildings was part of a privatization of State janitorial services that  
18 resulted in the elimination of the jobs of 89 unionized State employees; and
- 19 **WHEREAS**, The union which represents the laid-off employees requested an  
20 investigation on the illegal employment of non-citizens under those contracts  
21 as early as August 1995; and
- 22 **WHEREAS**, In response to the request for an investigation, the State  
23 Department of Law and Public Safety did nothing more than look at copies  
24 of what have proven to be inaccurate documents provided by the  
25 contractors and never even requested an investigation by federal authorities  
26 into the authenticity of the documents; and
- 27 **WHEREAS**, Many of the illegally employed workers were paid minimum wage  
28 and were provided no health benefits; and
- 29 **WHEREAS**, Because the illegally employed workers often have little or no  
30 knowledge of the legal rights of workers in the State to seek better  
31 conditions through collective bargaining, and would, in any case, be afraid  
32 to draw attention to themselves by efforts to exercise those legal rights; and
- 33 **WHEREAS**, Such exploitative practices result in unfair competition to other  
34 workers, businesses and public entities, which, unchecked, may undermine

1 the health, efficiency and general well-being of all workers; and  
2 **WHEREAS**, Such practices may result in substandard work for the State, an  
3 unstable workforce, added costs in uncompensated health care and other  
4 social services for the illegally employed workers and displaced public  
5 employees alike, which costs will be imposed on law-abiding employers,  
6 workers and taxpayers of the State; now, therefore,

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8 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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10 1. The Governor is hereby urged to rescind the State's contracts with  
11 Building Maintenance Systems, Inc. and the Trenton Janitorial Supply  
12 Company and to rehire all State employees who were laid off in connection  
13 with the State entering into those contracts.

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15 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of  
16 the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk of the General Assembly,  
17 shall be transmitted to the Governor.

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19 3. This Assembly resolution shall take effect immediately.

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22 STATEMENT

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24 This resolution expresses the will of the General Assembly that the  
25 Governor should rescind the State's contracts with Building Maintenance  
26 Systems, Inc. and the Trenton Janitorial Supply Company and rehire all State  
27 employees who were laid off in connection with the State entering into those  
28 contracts.

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33 \_\_\_\_\_  
34 Memorializes Governor regarding contracts between the State and certain vendors.