

CHRISTOPHER J. CHRISTIE

Republican

Like you, I've lived a New Jersey life. Mary Pat and I have been blessed with the opportunity to raise four wonderful children here, counting on the fact that some day they will also call New Jersey their home. But today, we're all struggling to make ends meet and there isn't any relief in sight. We're facing our highest unemployment rate in 32 years, the highest tax burden in the country, and quality jobs are leaving our state without any indication they'll ever return.

We've watched for too long as politician after politician has promised the world, only to disappoint by failing to deliver any results. Unfortunately, we haven't seen anything different over the last four years as our state has seemingly missed every opportunity to change the devastating course in which we've been headed. Over the last four years, we've seen our taxes raised by \$8.9 billion with our property tax rebates eliminated as property taxes have grown 17%. The last four years have also brought complete inaction and complacency as jobs have exited our state and unemployment has doubled. Our current leadership is out of touch with the struggles we're facing, and after four years of bad decisions, how can we expect the next four will be any different?

We're proud, tough, hard-working people here in New Jersey. We don't want or need government to manage our lives, and we certainly don't need it making things worse. First, we will get state spending reduced and permanently under control. Then we'll cut taxes across the board. We've been paying too many taxes, only to see our hard-earned dollars wasted over and over again. We can create long-term, quality paying jobs by investing in our natural resources and focusing on making New Jersey the leader in manufacturing renewable energy. I will cut red tape to make it easier for businesses to come back to our state and bring their jobs with them. I'll bring back our cities by improving public safety and attracting new business to our downtowns. Most importantly, if this is finally going to be action, and not just talk, I'll change the way Trenton operates from the outside in.

As your former U.S. Attorney, I faced a lot of opposition saying I couldn't combat corruption in New Jersey. We proved everyone wrong by putting corrupt Republican and Democrat officials behind bars and saving countless taxpayer dollars from waste, fraud and abuse. I knew we could be successful because standing up to the special interests in our state is the right thing to do. Changing the way Trenton operates will not be easy and it will not be without opposition, but I have never backed down from a challenge. With an aggressive approach and a willingness to do the right thing, even if it's tough and unpopular, New Jersey will again be the place we once knew – a place where quality jobs, smaller government, and lower taxes will make us proud to call our state home again.