



Q: With the global economic recession continuing, what specific measures would you enact to create jobs and foster economic development in New Jersey?

Chris Christie (Republican) - There is no more important issue facing our state than creating quality-paying, sustainable jobs. For that reason, I have included a job development aspect into each of my major policy statements and in all of my proposals for restoring our great state. For example, programs designed to revitalize our cities must focus on improvements to our failing urban schools, meaningful reductions in crime and violence and redevelopment of our housing and business infrastructure. We must bring residents and businesses with good jobs back to our cities if we are going to reverse decades of neglect. Similarly, it is not enough to say that we wish to obtain more of our energy from renewable sources; we must also commit ourselves to leading the nation in the

Jon Corzine (Democratic) - I launched the first-in-the-nation New Jersey Economic Assistance & Recovery Plan in October, 2008, lending assistance to those in greatest need, expediting job creation, stimulating business, enhancing the business climate and providing foreclosure relief. Under that plan, we have expedited job creation in schools and public infrastructure.

Since 2006, I have invested \$5.293 billion in school construction projects, investing in building a better future for students throughout New Jersey as well as for our state's economy. This investment will lead to the creation of over 47,000 jobs over the next five years.

Additionally, I will ensure that the projected 100,000 jobs are created or saved in New Jersey through the \$17.5 billion in federal stimulus funds we received.

I also instituted a variety of State

Jason Cullen (People Not Politics) - In the past, tax cuts have been effective in generating increased private investment and spending. My plan is a progressive, five-year reduction of sales and corporate taxes. I want to lay the ground work that starts a path to prosperity by bringing responsibility back to towns and cities which alleviates the budget pressures of the state, which really just takes a handling fee before reallocating the money to where the government believes it is needed. We can start with dedicating one percent of seven levied for tax on sales to the municipality where the sale was made which would give proper property tax relief.

Christopher Daggett (Independent for New Jersey) - When elected, we will establish a business advocacy program in the governor's office, dedicated to helping businesses navigate government permitting processes and securing the necessary financing to establish and grow their businesses, without sacrificing environmental protection, public health or workplace safety.

We also will create effective public/private partnerships between New Jersey's universities and colleges and our leading industries, including pharmaceuticals, biotech, telecommunication, chemicals and green technology. We will create a New Jersey Growth Council that includes economists, relocation experts, forward looking business and labor leaders, science and technology experts and high tech futurists to help us decide how and where state government should be investing. We also will expand investment in promoting travel and tourism.

Kenneth Kaplan (Libertarian Party) - We are a country of 50 separate state jurisdictions. New Jersey's laws, regulations, and taxes must be more reasonable than those in the majority of other states if we want to attract a healthy share of business growth and economic development. Our land use laws and procedures must be made more conducive to development. They must enable projects to be approved and built within a reasonable time frame so that the current situation does not arise again, of buildings planned for a strong economy ending up languishing in a weak one because of the endless approval process. For decades, New Jersey has been viewed as unfriendly to business. I would seek to reverse that perception.

Joshua Leinsdorf (Fair Election Party) - Trusts should be taxed based on wealth, not income, and the proceeds used to create public, competitive, venture capital funds. The United States is a capitalist country that has not had any venture capital for thirty years. Money, held in trust to avoid taxes, has been used to boost the value of real estate and the stocks of existing companies because investing in anything else is considered "risky". Instead of investing in new ventures to create the jobs of the future, that would have been on hand when the current economy reached the end of its shelf life, the money has been used to create new financial instruments that enriched the lawyers, investment bankers and professional money managers who created them.

Alvin Lindsay (Lindsay for Governor) - I would make an effort to talk to the manufacturing companies here in the United States and abroad and try to persuade them to come to New Jersey and set up their companies here with a tax incentive for a certain number of years and other royalties.

David Meiswinkle (Middle Class Empowerment) - Federal trade policies have stripped our manufacturing base, wrecking our economy. Millions of jobs have been transported overseas. 30 years ago the United States was the world's biggest creditor Nation. Today we are the biggest debtor. Our country fought in Viet Nam supposedly to stop the spread of communism. Today we are indebted to Communist China trillions of dollars, and China is populated by American companies employing Chinese workers at rates and under conditions that would be illegal in the United States. As Governor, I will organize other Governors to pressure Congress to bring our jobs home. Companies must be given tax incentives to keep them in New Jersey. Progressive programs such as green technologies including and solar and wind will be sponsored.

Gregory Pason (Socialist Party USA) -The best way to ensure long term economic growth and create high-paying, useful jobs is to move away from our state's dependence on the Wall Street

finance, insurance and real estate model. A key part of my socialist plan for economic growth includes providing low interest loans and grants to worker-controlled cooperative enterprises. These new co-ops would produce items people in New Jersey need in a green, efficient way. We will create new jobs in New Jersey and reduce our reliance on sweatshop labor produced items. This can be done democratically, with the co-op workers themselves making decisions about issues on the job, production goals and the budget. Best of all, the profits produced by these co-ops wouldn't go to pad the salary of corporate

Kostas Petris (For the People) - I believe that we can partner with business entities to create an atmosphere and incentives that will allow them to relocate to NJ. We will remake our cities like Trenton, Camden, and Newark by offering the hope of employment. We will protect businesses from Government and keep government from killing the Goose that laid the golden egg. It is the private sector that is going to change and to provide jobs and hope for our residents, NOT Government. It is government role to help these businesses succeed. Government will offer many incentives to assist businesses to relocate to our state. We can help in the renovation of existing abandoned factories and buildings using government grants. We can also offer them tax exemptions for a year

Gary Steele (Leadership, Independence, Vision) - The main reasons jobs have left the State of New Jersey over the past decade have been high taxes and Government regulation which does not stimulate job growth. When a business seeks a place to start or move to, taxes are always high on the list of factors. I will reduce State spending, which will permit us to lower taxes and make New Jersey competitive with the other states in our region. New Jersey has lost its competitive edge through the last 30 years because of its out-of-control spending. I will reduce the size of Government and re-allocate State aid to the suburbs so that there will be an immediate real estate tax decrease.

Gary Stein (Independent, multiple slogans) - Answered a League questionnaire last year when I was a candidate for congress. I gave short, improvised answers. This is tougher. Would have made a heck of a legislator. Not doctrinaire, willing to listen to both sides. Governor though is an executive position, we're in worse shape locally then nationally, and there's nothing in my background to suggest I'd make an effective Governor. I'm a protest candidate and nothing more.

Create jobs? That's easy. Don't hire another blessed state employee for at least 5 years and eliminate a cabinet agency or two. That's "message one" to the private sector that NJ is business friendly.