

# Diocese of Trenton

## ACTION ALERT

**ISSUE:** Nonpublic school transportation continues to be hampered by a number of problems which emphasize the major difficulties that nonpublic school parents face in attempting to get safe rides to school for their children. The major problem has been the failure of the state to increase the ceiling for nonpublic school transportation funding the 2007-2008 school year. An enclosed Fact Sheet explains the problem in greater detail.

**OUR POSITION:** The New Jersey Catholic Conference and the New Jersey Network of Catholic School Families support every attempt to provide equitable transportation services for nonpublic school pupils. The focus of this alert (and in this phase of the budget cycle) is to ask Governor Christie to increase the \$884.00 ceiling for nonpublic school transportation. **If the increases required by statute and tied to the annual changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) had been followed, the ceiling would now be \$1,047.00.**

**ACTION:** Call, write, or email the office of Governor Chris Christie at the address listed below. Parents should be strongly encouraged to tell their stories in great detail with regard to how their children face greater challenges in getting to school than their neighbors' children who go to public school. We encourage group letter writing sessions in schools and efforts to contact members of the Governor's staff that you may know personally with regard to this concern. Please note that this initiative is focused strictly on the Governor at this time because the Legislature will not begin developing a budget until the Governor's budget has been presented in February.

Address: The Honorable Chris Christie  
Governor of the State of New Jersey  
The State House  
P.O. Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone: (609) 292-6000

Email: <http://www.nj.gov/governor/contact/>

You can also contact Governor Christie through the NJCC Voter Voice System at:  
<http://njcatholic.org/faith-in-action?vvsrc=%2fCampaigns%2f48691%2fRespond>