

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 85

WHEREAS, Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCroce was an exceptional individual, a man of impeccable character and dedication to the people of New Jersey, and a devoted leader, public servant, mentor, family-man, friend, and role model; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman DeCroce was born in Morristown, New Jersey in 1936, attended Boonton High School and Seton Hall University, and resided in Parsippany-Troy Hills, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman DeCroce began his remarkable career of public service by being elected as a member of the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders, serving from 1984 to 1989; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman DeCroce began his service in the New Jersey General Assembly in 1989, and thereafter was re-elected eleven times, serving until 2012 as a citizen legislator loved by his constituents; and

WHEREAS, during his years of public service, Assemblyman DeCroce remained focused on improving New Jersey through positive and principled leadership, being chosen by his peers to numerous leadership positions including Chairman of the Assembly Transportation Committee, Deputy Speaker from 1994 to 2001, Assembly Republican Conference Leader from 2002 to 2003, and Assembly Republican Leader from 2003 until his passing; and

WHEREAS, as Chairman of the Assembly Transportation Committee, Assemblyman DeCroce sponsored the laws to renew the Transportation Trust Fund and dedicate the Motor Fuels Tax to transportation construction projects; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman DeCroce was a pioneer and an unwavering advocate for the rights of criminal victims, seeking

to ensure justice and fairness for those who had been wronged;
and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman DeCroce earned a reputation in the Legislature for his bipartisanship, unwavering kindness, and gentle nature even while fighting for his principles; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman DeCroce dedicated himself to tirelessly serving the people of Morris County and the people of New Jersey in all facets of his life, not just through his government service, but through his work on many charitable boards and foundations, and his service as an accomplished realtor in his local business partnership with the late Congressman Dean Gallo; and

WHEREAS, above all of his other accomplishments, Assemblyman DeCroce was a caring and devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and New Jersey is grateful to his loving family for sharing him with us during his many years of public service; and

WHEREAS, it is with deep personal sadness that we honor the memory and mourn the passing of Assembly Republican Leader DeCroce and extend sympathy to his family, his many friends and admirers, and his respectful colleagues;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 in recognition and mourning of the passing of Assemblyman Alex DeCroce.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
13th day of January,
Two Thousand and Twelve,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Sixth.

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Kevin M. O'Dowd

Deputy Chief Counsel to the Governor