

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 51

WHEREAS, a robust healthcare and medical education system is vital to the wellbeing of New Jersey residents and the State's economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey ("UMDNJ") is the nation's largest public health sciences university, consisting of eight schools; and

WHEREAS, as a public medical school, UMDNJ provides a broad variety of services in the State, ranging from the provision of education and training of physicians and other healthcare professionals, to the delivery of medical care to patients; and

WHEREAS, UMDNJ is one of the ten largest employers in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, while UMDNJ offers expansive services throughout the State and plays a significant role in the State's economy, it has also had a challenging history which has contributed to a perception that the school does not function as efficiently as it could, and is in need of continued reform; and

WHEREAS, unlike the vast majority of medical schools in most other states which are affiliated with a research university, UMDNJ is a free-standing institution and has no affiliation with a research university; and

WHEREAS, the Higher Education Task Force ("Task Force") was established in May 2010 to study important issues facing the higher education system in New Jersey, and to provide recommendations to the Governor concerning the higher education system; and

WHEREAS, while the Task Force was not tasked specifically with the review of medical education in New Jersey, its report

noted the importance of addressing medical education in New Jersey and the issues surrounding UMDNJ; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force concluded in its report that medical education in New Jersey is vital to the future educational, economic, and healthcare needs of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, while recognizing the size and complexities of UMDNJ and its various financial, personnel, logistic and accreditation issues, the Task Force recommended partial changes to the structure of UMDNJ and further recommended the creation of an expert panel to address these issues;

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. There is hereby established the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Advisory Committee, hereinafter referred to as the "Committee."

2. The Committee shall consist of up to five (5) members to be appointed by the Governor. These members shall include individuals from both inside and outside government who have knowledge or expertise in the areas of (a) administration, (b) public health, (c) medical, dental, nursing, or biomedical science education, and/or (d) related areas or subject matters. All members of the Committee shall serve without compensation. The Committee shall organize as soon as practicable after the appointment of its members.

3. The Committee is charged with examining the delivery of graduate medical education in the State and developing recommendations for the Governor concerning this issue. The Committee shall review the recommendations made by the Higher

Education Task Force concerning graduate medical education and UMDNJ. The Committee shall also examine and provide recommendations concerning the following issues: (a) whether Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the School of Public Health should be merged with Rutgers University's New Brunswick-Piscataway campuses; (b) whether UMDNJ's Newark-based schools should be merged with any of the senior public higher education institutions in Newark; (c) whether UMDNJ's South Jersey - based schools should be merged with any of the senior public higher education institutions in South Jersey; (d) the role and mission of University Hospital; (e) whether NJIT should start its own medical school; (f) how graduate medical education should be delivered in South Jersey; (g) whether the various public nursing schools should merge; and (h) such other matters as may be referred to the Committee by the Governor.

4. The Governor's office shall provide staff support to the Committee. The Committee shall be authorized to call upon any department, office, division, or agency of this State to supply it with any information, personnel, or other assistance available as the Committee deems necessary to discharge its duties under this Order. Each department, office, division, and agency of this State is hereby required, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate fully with the Committee within the limits of its statutory authority and to furnish the Committee with such assistance on as timely a basis as is necessary to accomplish the purpose of this Order. The Committee may consult with experts or other knowledgeable individuals in the public or private sector on any aspect of its mission.

5. In formulating its recommendations pursuant to this Order, the Committee may elicit public input from individuals, members of UMDNJ and other medical and healthcare institutions, organizations, and other interested parties.

6. The Committee may report to the Governor from time to time and shall issue a final report to the Governor setting forth the Committee's recommendations pursuant to this Order no later than September 1, 2011. The Committee shall expire upon the issuance of its final report.

7. The final report of the Committee shall be provided to the legislature and shall be made available to the public.

8. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
4th day of January,
Two Thousand and Eleven,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Fifth.

/s/Chris Christie

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/Jeffrey S. Chiesa

Chief Counsel to the Governor