



## State of New Jersey

### STATE PAROLE BOARD

JON S. CORZINE, GOVERNOR

JOHN D'AMICO, JSC (RETIRED), CHAIRMAN

Post Office Box 862

Trenton, New Jersey 08625

# Media Release

For Immediate Release:

**March 12, 2007**

For more information contact:

**Neal Buccino**

**(609) 292-4031, office**

**(609) 468-9728, cell**

## Judiciary Committee Unanimously Approves Assemblyman Barnes As Parole Board Nominee

Trenton, NJ—The Senate Judiciary Committee today unanimously approved Assemblyman Peter J. Barnes' nomination as Chairman of the New Jersey State Parole Board.

“The State Parole Board plays a vital role in the safety of our families and communities, and in the reentry and reintegration of ex-offenders,” Assemblyman Barnes said. “As Chairman I plan to take a tough but fair approach to the agency’s supervision of parolees, and all of its functions. I am very excited by the opportunity and challenge to continue working for New Jersey’s public safety.”

The full Senate is expected to vote Thursday on Assemblyman Barnes' nomination. Barnes will resign his Assembly post upon becoming Parole Board Chairman.

Before joining the Legislature, Barnes served for more than 30 years in law enforcement. He served in the FBI from 1954 to 1980, including service at FBI Headquarters in San Francisco, Newark, New Brunswick and Piscataway. He investigated cases involving bank robberies, Soviet espionage, kidnappings, political corruption, white-collar crime and internal security matters.

Barnes later served as Director of Public Safety in the City of Edison from 1991 to 1993, where he is credited with dramatically improving the Police Department. He later served as Director of Public Safety in East Brunswick Township in 1997 and in 2005, serving both times in an unpaid capacity. Mr. Barnes also served as Director of Security for the New Jersey Devils Hockey Team from 1981 until 1995.

Barnes' career in the Assembly began in 1996. He serves as chairman of the Law and Public Safety Committee, serves on the Assembly Regulatory Oversight Committee and Human Services Committee, and serves as the Majority Whip.

He has authored several major pieces of legislation, including a landmark bill creating the New Jersey Commission to Review Criminal Sentencing; a bill establishing certain hiring preferences for the children of firefighters and law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; legislation keeping common bomb-making materials away from terrorists; legislation giving state and local law enforcement officers more tools to investigate online sex crimes against children; and legislation requiring the licensing of Bounty Hunters in New Jersey.

###