

APPENDIX

**Fuel Merchants
Association
of
New
Jersey**



June 16, 2014

TO: Senate Environment Committee
FROM: Eric DeGesero, Executive Vice President
RE: **YES on SCR-84 (SCS)**

The Fuel Merchants Association of New Jersey (FMA) urges your support for SCR-84 (SCS).

FMA recognizes the longstanding efforts made by Chairman Smith and Senator Bateman to find a stable source of open funding, most recently through redirecting the corporate business tax (CBT) dedication. Unlike the version of SCR84 heard before this committee in March 17, 2014 this version {SCR84 (SCS)} achieves that objective while safeguarding funding for the UST Fund.

The UST Fund assists those homeowners who do not have means of financing the remediation of a discharge from a UST, especially one that impacts a third party. This issue has become more relevant over the past few years as homeowner insurers are no longer providing third party coverage in their base policies and only have to offer a one-time opportunity to their homeowner insureds to purchase the coverage; an opportunity homeowners do not often know they had.

The UST Fund currently has 1,653 applications pending totaling \$40,602,707 and receives approximately \$12 million per year. This means the current formula will need to be carried through Fiscal Year 2018 to simply meet the existing backlog. Furthermore, there are additional applications being made to the UST Fund on an ongoing basis.

SCR-84 (SCS) recognizes the important need of funding for homeowner underground storage tank (UST) remediations and balances it with other competing needs.

FMA strongly urges you to vote Yes on SCR-84 (SCS).