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## Major Tax Collections Surpass \$2.22 Billion for March, \$18.87 Billion Year-to-Date

TRENTON – Tax collections from nearly every major revenue source saw year-over-year monthly growth in March. Year-to-date revenues passed \$18.87 billion by the end of the month, an increase of 2.4 percent from March of Fiscal Year 2015.

Sales and Use Tax collections were up 7.7 percent for March and 4.8 percent year-to-date compared to Fiscal Year 2015. Monthly revenue collections from this source have shown positive growth in all but one month thus far in Fiscal Year 2016. As New Jersey's real estate market continues to recover from the Great Recession, Realty Transfer Fee revenues have increased steadily, up 13.9 percent year-to-date from 2015.

Following a decline in year-over-year monthly collections for February, New Jersey's major revenues bounced back in March, up 6.8 percent from Fiscal Year 2015. While collections from New Jersey's three largest revenue sources slightly trail their year-end projected growth rates, it is important to note the State has paid \$377 million more in Gross Income Tax and Corporation Business Tax refunds than paid through March of last year. Given this accelerated pace of refund, the State is well-positioned heading into the important collection month of April.

"While a portion of the increased dollar amount of refunds so far this year relates to the expansion of the EITC, we are also simply processing refunds faster," Acting State Treasurer Ford Scudder noted during his testimony before Senate Budget Committee April 6. The Christie Administration expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) earlier this fiscal year, benefitting lower-income New Jersey families.

"Refund processing was slowed early last spring on account of a suspected breach of taxpayer information within the tax preparation software community. Processing is faster this year both

because of the lack of any similar tech breach, as well as continued process improvements within the Division of Taxation and the Division of Revenue and Enterprise Services."

Acting Treasurer Scudder will appear before the Legislature on May 18 and 19 to provide an update on Fiscal Year 2016 revenues.

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY MONTH AND YEAR-TO-DATE CASH COLLECTIONS Fiscal Year 2016 - MARCH 2016 versus 2015

(\$ Thousands)

FY 2016 Projected *	Growth Rate	3.8%	5.0%	(12.0%)	0.5%	3.9%	%9.6	4.4%	(1.4%)	3.9%	(11.2%)	1.4%	22.1%	3.7%	13.6%	(4.0%)	0.0%	2.7%
0%	Change	2.6%	4.8%	(14.5%)	7.7%	1.9%	25.1%	18.0%	0.6%	(1.9%)	33.1%	0.3%	(33.1%)	(0.4%)	13.9%	(0.9%)	ı	2.4%
<u>[]</u>	2016	8,396,875	6,028,759	1,427,701	722,471	353,489	289,955	609,976	148,127	372,027	13,265	143,103	73,916	66,109	214,168	15,500		18,875,441
MARCH YTD	2015	\$ 8,188,063 \$	5,751,758	1,669,107	670,648	347,039	231,852	517,035	147, i 98	379,22 <sup>s</sup> ,	9,965	142,607	110,462	66,351	187,957	15,643	ı	18,434,911 \$
		2.4% Gross Income Tax	7.7% Sales	2.0% Corporation Business	(2.6%) Lottery	14.0% Motor Fuels	30.4% Motor Vehicle Fees (a)	33.9% Transfer Inheritance	27.8% Casino Revenue	33.1% Insurance Premium	33.1% Cigarette (b)	30.9% Petroleum Products Gross Receipts	(42.1%) Corp. Banks & Financial Institutions	(1.5%) Alcoholic Beverage Excise	8.0% Realty Transfer	24.3% Tobacco Products Wholesale Sales	- Public Utility	6.8% Total Major Revenues
%	16 Change	779,781 2	539,643 7		77,199 (2.	42,064 14	75,386 30	66,235 33	19,142 27	138,992 33	13,265 33	19,084 30	19,450 (42.	10,291 (1.2	19,688 8	1,750 24	-	6
MARCH	2015 2016	761,288 \$ 77	593,688 63		79,227					-	9,965 1				18,229 1	1,408		2,081,439 \$ 2,22

(a) Pursuant to P.L. 03-13, \$222.1 million of FY 2016 Motor Vehicle Fee collections are dedicated to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission. (b) Pursuant to P.L. 06-37, revenue collections of \$396.5 million from the cigarette and tobacco products wholesale sales tax are deposited in the Health Care Subsidy Fund. Pursuant to P.L. 04-69 \$0.0325 per cigarette is dedicated to pay debt service on the Cigarette Securitization Bonds. \* Projected annual growth rate is the change from the FY 2015 CAFR to the FY 2016 revenue estimates pet the FY 2017 Governor's Budget Message.