



## LETTER: Hopefully new governor will change N.J. prospects



8:11 a.m. ET Jan. 11, 2017



(Photo: Getty Images/OJO Images RF)

Retirees are flocking to greener, more affordable pastures, according to the latest National Movers Study. That comes as no surprise in a state with the highest foreclosure rate, fifth-most expensive rentals and a new gas tax increase. (["More people left NJ in 2016 than any other state,"](#) Jan. 4.)

It's not only retirees who are struggling to stay in the communities they've lived their entire lives in. It's also the recent college graduates trying to keep up with student loan payments and the rent. Then there are the young couples starting families in need of an affordable home in a good school district, or the single parent trying to provide for their kids while keeping a roof over their heads. Living in New Jersey is not easy and that's why 63 percent of New Jersey moves last year were people leaving.

[LETTER: Minimum wage hike in N.J. laughable](#)

In a new year when candidates are clamoring to be our next governor, I hope to see a positive change. The mover study needs to be a wake-up call for our residents and especially those looking to represent us. If we can't afford to live here, we can't get our economy back on track. Our decision-makers need to address how we're going to build a thriving state so that all of us can call New Jersey home.

Kerrianne Meade  
Case Manager  
Family Promise of Monmouth County  
Middletown

### MORE LETTERS

40 CONNECT | 
 TWEET | 
 LINKEDIN | 
 3 COMMENT | 
 EMAIL | 
 MORE

40  
  
  
 3