

Act v st rou s across the ro ress ves ectrum were u set an sa o nte over Mur
br efly — ssues such as the env ronment, vot n r hts, cl mate chan e, an wealth nee

They reserve the r harshest cr t c sm, thou h, for Mur hy's ntent on to allow the surc
ex re at the en of th s year, w th one call n t "a b ll on ollar tax cut for the most ro

The left-w n New Jersey Pol cy Pers ect ver e nto the ro osal, assa l n t as the
"allow cor orat ons l ke Amazon an Walmart to make b ll ons o the backs of low a

Mur hy, who once bra e he wante to make New Jersey "the Cal forn a of the east,"
term, secur n v ctor es on ssues such as marr a e equal ty, enhance f rearms contro
serv ces, le al zat on of mar juana, h her m n mum wa e an enactment of a m ll ona

The ushback from New Jersey's ro ress ves may n fact benef t Mur hy's lon ran e
mo erate year n s — newly foun s as they may be — as reco n z n the lon unassa l
of the nat on occu es the center an w ll res on to a can ate who shares that terr t
wh le reject n the more extreme far left a en a.

He won't be Cal forn a Gov. Gav n Newsom but he certa nly won't be Flor a Gov. Ron Deo
Mur hy has emonstrate he can "rea the room" an react accor n ly.

In a ee ly reveal n comment, Mur hy sa "I'm not a ro ress ve for the sake of t. I'm a ra mat c ro ress ve." For many on the
har left, such sent ments are heresy.

He's seem n ly conclu e that ressure an cr t c sms from the ro ress ve left can be absorbe w thout mean n ful lon er-term
m act, art cularly n l ht of h s f rst term successes n ful ll n major com onents of the ra en a.

Jolte by a sur r s n lysl m three- o nt re-elect on mar n n 2 21 alon w th the loss of seven seats n the Le slature, Mur hy faces
the 2 23 elect on cycle n wh ch all 12 seats w ll be on the ballot n newly-rawn str cts.

Mur hy's t lt towar the center may be reflect ve of concern amon the Democrat c major t es that voters erce ve a movement one
too far to the left — art cularly nat onally as ev ence by Pres ent B en's fall n a roval rat n s an the narrow loss of control of
the House of Re resentat ves — an es re a less eolo cally- r ven a en a.

thers v ew the overnor's a roach w th a ose of cyn c sm as a strate y ro elle n art by h s nterest n he hten n h s nat onal
ro le ahea of the 2 24 res ent al scramble.

H s name cro su er o cally n s eculat on commentar es althou h he — l ke others n s m lar c rcumstances — w ll rema n n a
hol n atternawa t n B en's ec s on concern n h s own future.

H s ec s on, for nstance, to allow the cor orate tax surchar e to ex re s not an n cat on that the scales have su enly fallen from
h s eyes an he's reco n ze the value of nvestment an rowth.

Rather, h s acce tance of one of the bus ness commun ty's most sou ht after act ons s an un erstan n that econom c rowth an
job creat on are v tal com onents n bu l n are utat on as someone w ll n to tem er eolo cal lean n s n the lar er nterest an
bene t of h s const tuents.

Pro ress ves have h stor cally v ewe b bus ness as mot vate by ree an sharehol er rewar s to the etr ment of workers wh le
the mo erates' a roach, wh le a ree n that bus ness shoul ay ts fa r share n taxes, has been to cease ut l z n t as a cash cow to
nance new, ex an e an costly soc al ro rams.

When Mur hy subm ts h s ro ose f