To the Members of the 151st General Assembly and to all Delawareans:

In compliance with 29 Del. C. Section 6335 (a), I respectfully submit for your consideration the Fiscal Year 2023 Recommended Operating Budget, Supplemental One-time Appropriation and Bond and Capital Improvements Act for the State of Delaware.

We continue to focus on supporting Delawareans and rebuilding our economy as we work to overcome the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In these unprecedented times, we have united to support each other and have met these obstacles head on. I am consistently encouraged by the strength and resilience of family, friends, and neighbors across our state.

We have found sustainable ways to develop our budget, and Delaware remains in a strong fiscal position. The plan I present today remains true to our goals and invests in the following priority areas:

- Supporting Delaware children and families through educational initiatives, opportunity funding and new school construction;
- Investing in economic development and creating new opportunities for growth;
- Supporting State of Delaware employees through compensation and pay equity;
- Focusing on the health needs of Delawareans;
- Investing in higher education;
- Ensuring safe and secure communities;
- Increasing efficiencies throughout state government.

I look forward to working with the 151st General Assembly on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

John C. Carney
Governor