

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. 37**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**218th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 1, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH PENNACCHIO**

**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator A.R.Bucco**

**SYNOPSIS**

Supports preservation of Columbus Day as federal and State holiday.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/2/2018)**

SR37 PENNACCHIO, CORRADO

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1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** supporting the preservation of Columbus  
2 Day as a federal and State holiday.

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4 **WHEREAS**, The voyage of Christopher Columbus, which culminated  
5 with his landing in the New World on October 12, 1492, is an  
6 historic event that has been celebrated in the United States since the  
7 colonial period; and

8 **WHEREAS**, In 1892, on the 400th anniversary of Columbus' landing,  
9 President Benjamin Harrison issued the first official proclamation  
10 urging United States citizens to celebrate the day to honor  
11 Columbus' arrival in the Americas, President Franklin Delano  
12 Roosevelt, in April of 1934, proclaimed Columbus Day a federal  
13 holiday, and since 1970, this country has observed Columbus Day  
14 as a federal holiday on the second Monday in October of each year;  
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, Italian-Americans observe Columbus Day as a celebration  
17 of their heritage, and as a day to recognize the contributions of their  
18 ancestors and culture to America and the world; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Columbus Day is celebrated throughout the United States  
20 with many observances and events, the largest of which is the  
21 Columbus Day Parade in New York City, which was first held in  
22 1792 and has been held annually since 1929; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Unico National, the nation's largest Italian-American  
24 service and charitable organization based in Fairfield, New Jersey,  
25 the Order Sons of Italy in America, the New Jersey Italian and  
26 Italian-American Heritage Commission, and many other  
27 organizations are fighting to preserve the long-standing tradition of  
28 celebrating Columbus Day as a day significant not only to Italian-  
29 Americans but to all Americans; and

30 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper for this House to recognize the  
31 significance of Columbus' arrival in the Americas and to honor and  
32 celebrate this historic achievement; now, therefore,

33

34 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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36 1. This House supports preserving Columbus Day as a federal  
37 and State holiday.

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39 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,  
40 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the leaders of  
41 Unico National, the Order Sons of Italy in America, and the New  
42 Jersey Italian and Italian-American Heritage Commission, to the  
43 President of the United States, and to each member of Congress  
44 elected from this State.

1 STATEMENT

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3 This resolution supports preserving Columbus Day as a federal  
4 and State holiday. Americans have celebrated Columbus' voyage,  
5 which culminated in his arrival in the Americas on October 12,  
6 1492, since the colonial period. Since 1970, the federal government  
7 has recognized Columbus Day as a federal holiday taking place on  
8 the second Monday in October of each year. This House recognizes  
9 the significance of Columbus' arrival in the New World and  
10 expresses its support of the Columbus Day holiday as a day to  
11 honor and celebrate Columbus' historic achievement.