

ASSEMBLY, No. 511

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JAY WEBBER

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblywoman BETTYLOU DECROCE

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Designates Morris Plains rail station as “Frank J. Druetzler Station – Morris Plains, New Jersey.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** designating the Morris Plains rail station as the “Frank J.
2 Druetzler Station – Morris Plains, New Jersey.”
3
4 **WHEREAS**, The Honorable Frank J. Druetzler has lived his entire life
5 in Morris County, first residing in Hanover before relocating to
6 Morris Plains in 1960; and
7 **WHEREAS**, Frank J. Druetzler began his distinguished career in public
8 service as a member of the Morris Plains Borough Council; and
9 **WHEREAS**, In 1986, Frank J. Druetzler was elected Mayor of Morris
10 Plains where, over a 32 year career, he had many significant
11 achievements; and
12 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Druetzler was responsible for the creation of
13 several events that have made Morris Plains a place that children
14 and their families have loved to call “home,” including the annual
15 Memorial Day parade, “Family Day,” the town bonfire, and “Uncle
16 Frank’s Fishing Contest”; and
17 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Druetzler truly embodies all that makes Morris
18 Plains “The Community of Caring”; and
19 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Druetzler led efforts to expand the Morris Plains
20 park system and convert the Community Park School into a heavily
21 used and deeply appreciated community center; and
22 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Druetzler led efforts to create the Morris Plains
23 September 11, 2001, memorial, which features 3 steel beams from
24 the North Tower of the World Trade Center; and
25 **WHEREAS**, In addition to serving as Mayor of Morris Plains, Frank J.
26 Druetzler also served as a member of the Board of Chosen
27 Freeholders in Morris County from 1992 to 2006; and
28 **WHEREAS**, As a Freeholder, Frank J. Druetzler was part of the board
29 that voted for the construction of a \$32 million, state-of-the-art
30 corrections facility in Morris Township; and
31 **WHEREAS**, As a Freeholder, Frank J. Druetzler is also credited with
32 leading efforts to expand and renovate the county juvenile detention
33 center and human services building; and
34 **WHEREAS**, As a Freeholder, Frank J. Druetzler led the preservation of
35 300 acres of land at Greystone, which has now become the
36 preeminent park to enjoy in Morris County; and
37 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Druetzler’s extensive record of inspired and
38 effective civic leadership has earned for him the deepest respect and
39 regard of his fellow citizens, and his steadfast dedication has
40 exemplified the true meaning of selfless public service; and
41 **WHEREAS**, The strength and success of the State of New Jersey, the
42 vitality of its communities and the effectiveness of our American
43 society depend, in great measure, upon dynamic and selfless
44 individuals, as exemplified by Mayor Frank J. Druetzler; and
45 **WHEREAS**, With an unwavering devotion to the people of Morris
46 Plains and Morris County, it is fitting and proper for the Legislature
47 of the State of New Jersey to honor Frank J. Druetzler by

1 designating the Morris Plains rail station as the “Frank J. Druetzler
2 Station – Morris Plains, New Jersey”; now, therefore,

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. The Executive Director of the New Jersey Transit
8 Corporation shall designate the Morris Plains rail station as the
9 “Frank J. Druetzler Station – Morris Plains, New Jersey” in
10 commemoration of his outstanding service and erect appropriate
11 signs bearing this designation and dedication.

12
13 2. State or other public funds shall not be used for producing,
14 purchasing, or erecting signs bearing the designation established
15 pursuant to section 1 of this act. The Executive Director of the New
16 Jersey Transit Corporation is authorized to receive gifts, grants, or
17 other financial assistance from private sources for the purpose of
18 funding or reimbursing the New Jersey Transit Corporation for the
19 costs associated with producing, purchasing, erecting, and
20 maintaining signs bearing the designation established pursuant to
21 section 1 of this act and entering into agreements related thereto,
22 with private sources, including but not limited to non-governmental
23 non-profit, educational, or charitable entities or institutions. Work
24 shall not proceed and funding shall not be accepted by the New
25 Jersey Transit Corporation until an agreement has been reached
26 with a responsible party for paying the costs associated with
27 producing, purchasing, erecting, and maintaining the signs.

28
29 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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32 STATEMENT

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34 This bill designates the Morris Plains rail station in recognition
35 of the Honorable Frank J. Druetzler to commemorate his
36 outstanding service to Morris Plains and Morris County. Under the
37 bill, the Morris Plains rail station will be renamed the “Frank J.
38 Druetzler Station – Morris Plains, New Jersey.”

39 During his 38 year public service career, Frank J. Druetzler was
40 an exemplary Councilman, Mayor and Freeholder for Morris Plains
41 and Morris County. As Mayor for 32 years, Frank J. Druetzler
42 established many community events, memorials and centers,
43 including the annual Memorial Day parade, “Family Day” on the
44 Fourth of July, a 9/11 memorial and a community center. As a
45 freeholder for 15 years, Frank J. Druetzler was involved in several
46 successful projects, including the construction of a \$32 million,
47 state-of-the-art correctional facility in Morris Township and the

1 expansion and renovation of the county juvenile center and human
2 services building.
3 Consistent with current practice, the bill provides that State or
4 other public funds are not to be used for producing, purchasing, or
5 erecting signs bearing the designation for the “Frank J. Druetzler
6 Station – Morris Plains, New Jersey.” The Executive Director of
7 the New Jersey Transit Corporation is authorized to receive
8 financial assistance from private sources for the costs associated
9 with producing, purchasing, erecting, and maintaining signs bearing
10 the designation.