

ASSEMBLY, No. 4503

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 10, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Asks Joint Committee on Library of Congress to approve replacing NJ statues of Richard Stockton and Philip Kearny in National Statuary Hall Collection with statues of Harriet Tubman and Alice Paul.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/22/2021)

1 **AN ACT** to provide for the replacement of the New Jersey statues of
2 Richard Stockton and Philip Kearny in the National Statuary Hall
3 Collection of the United States Capitol with statues of Harriet
4 Tubman and Alice Paul.
5
6 **WHEREAS**, In 1864, the United States Congress established the National
7 Statuary Hall Collection in the Old Hall of the House of
8 Representatives in the United States Capitol and authorized each
9 state to contribute to the collection two statues to represent important
10 historical figures from that state; and
11 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey currently has on display in the National Statuary
12 Hall Collection statues of Richard Stockton and Philip Kearny given
13 by the State in 1888; and
14 **WHEREAS**, In 2000, the United States Congress enacted legislation
15 authorizing states to request that the Joint Committee on the Library
16 of Congress approve the replacement of a statue the state had
17 provided for display in the hall's collection; and
18 **WHEREAS**, Despite the significant contributions of Statesman Richard
19 Stockton during the Revolutionary War and General Philip Kearny
20 during the Civil War, it is important for New Jersey to highlight
21 different icons over time in the National Statuary Hall; and
22 **WHEREAS**, Harriet Tubman, an abolitionist, Civil War scout,
23 emancipator, and suffragist, is a significant historical and civil rights
24 figure; and
25 **WHEREAS**, Born into slavery, Harriet Tubman escaped and later risked
26 her life numerous times to rescue, emancipate, and aid in the
27 emancipation of approximately 140 enslaved persons, utilizing the
28 antislavery Underground Railroad; and
29 **WHEREAS**, While living in New Jersey in the early 1850s, Tubman used
30 her earnings working in Cape May to help fund her expeditions and
31 missions; and
32 **WHEREAS**, Tubman's legacy of emancipation and abolitionism in New
33 Jersey will be immortalized with the Harriet Tubman Museum of
34 Cape May; and
35 **WHEREAS**, During the Civil War, Tubman enlisted into the Union Army
36 as a scout and spy, and was the first woman to lead an armed
37 expedition in the war when she led the raid at Combahee Ferry,
38 freeing over 700 enslaved persons; and
39 **WHEREAS**, Alice Paul, a women's rights activist and suffragist, is also
40 a significant historical and civil rights figure who was born in
41 Moorestown, New Jersey; and
42 **WHEREAS**, Paul became involved in the women's suffrage movement
43 in the United States in 1910, and worked two years with the National
44 American Woman Suffrage Association, cofounded the
45 Congressional Union seeking a federal constitutional amendment for
46 women's suffrage, and in 1916, formed the National Woman's Party;
47 and

1 **WHEREAS**, Paul was instrumental in the 1919 passage and 1920
2 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment, which prohibited denying
3 any citizen the right to vote on the basis of sex, penned the Equal
4 Rights Amendment in 1923, and continued to advocate on behalf of
5 women until her death on July 9, 1977; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Harriet Tubman and Alice Paul, due to their extraordinary
7 contributions to the State of New Jersey and the United States, are
8 worthy of recognition in the National Statuary Hall Collection; now,
9 therefore,

10

11 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
12 *of New Jersey:*

13

14 1. The State of New Jersey requests that the Joint Committee on
15 the Library of Congress approve the replacement of the New Jersey
16 statues of Richard Stockton and Philip Kearny in the National
17 Statuary Hall Collection with statues of Harriet Tubman and Alice
18 Paul.

19

20 2. The New Jersey Secretary of State shall submit to the United
21 States Architect of the Capitol for his or her review for completeness
22 a written request from the Governor to approve the replacements.
23 The Governor's request shall also include a description of the
24 locations in New Jersey where the replaced statues of Richard
25 Stockton and Philip Kearny will be displayed after the statues are
26 transferred and a copy of this act requesting such replacements. After
27 such review, the Governor and Legislature shall call on the architect
28 to forward the request to the Joint Committee on the Library of
29 Congress for its approval or denial. If the request is approved by the
30 committee, the architect and the Secretary of State, acting on behalf
31 of the State of New Jersey, shall enter into an agreement pursuant to
32 2 U.S.C. 2132(b).

33

34 3. a. There is created the National Statuary Hall Selection
35 Committee. The committee shall be temporary and consist of seven
36 members, appointed as follows:

37 (1) two members appointed by the Governor, upon
38 recommendation of the Senate President, not more than one of whom
39 shall be from the same political party;

40 (2) two members appointed by the Governor, upon
41 recommendation of the Speaker of the General Assembly, not more
42 than one of whom shall be from the same political party;

43 (3) the New Jersey Secretary of State, or the designee thereof; and

44 (4) two members appointed by the Governor, not more than one
45 of whom shall be from the same political party.

46 The members of the committee shall select a member of the
47 committee to be the chair and a member of a different political party
48 to be vice chair. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as

1 the original appointment. Members shall serve without
2 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses
3 incurred in the performance of their duties.

4 The chair shall appoint a secretary to the committee, who need not
5 be a member of the committee.

6 A quorum of the members shall be the majority of the members.
7 The members shall be appointed within 45 days following the
8 enactment of this act and shall organize as soon as practicable after
9 the appointment of the majority of its members.

10 b. Upon approval by the Joint Committee of the Library of
11 Congress and pursuant to the agreement provided for in section 2 of
12 this act, the committee shall:

13 (1) select a sculptor or sculptors to create the statues of Harriet
14 Tubman and Alice Paul to be placed in the National Statuary Hall
15 Collection, and review and approve the plans for the statues; and

16 (2) identify a method to obtain the funding necessary to pay for
17 the following items:

18 (a) the sculptor or sculptors for designing and carving or casting
19 the statues;

20 (b) the design and fabrication of the pedestals;

21 (c) the transportation of the statues and pedestals to the United
22 States Capitol;

23 (d) the removal and transportation of the replaced statues;

24 (e) the temporary placement of the new statues in the Rotunda of
25 the United States Capitol for the unveiling ceremonies;

26 (f) the unveiling ceremonies; and

27 (g) such other expenses that the committee determines are
28 necessary to incur to replace the New Jersey statues of Richard
29 Stockton and Philip Kearny with statues of Harriet Tubman and Alice
30 Paul.

31 c. The committee shall complete its work within one year of its
32 initial organizational meeting and terminate upon completion of a
33 written report on its activities. Copies of the report shall be
34 transmitted to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the President
35 of the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly, and any other
36 official required to receive reports pursuant to section 2 of
37 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1). Copies of the report shall also be
38 made available to the general public.

39

40 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

41

42

43 STATEMENT

44

45 The purpose of this bill is to request that the New Jersey statues
46 of Richard Stockton and Philip Kearny in the National Statuary Hall
47 Collection at the United States Capitol be replaced with statues of
48 Harriet Tubman and Alice Paul.

1 Harriet Tubman was an abolitionist, Civil War scout, emancipator,
2 and suffragist. Tubman was born into slavery, and after risking her
3 life to escape to the north, she embarked on numerous missions to
4 liberate dozens of other enslaved people. Tubman was instrumental
5 during the Civil War as a scout and spy and was the first woman to
6 lead an armed expedition during the war. Tubman's legacy has
7 extended throughout the United States, including the Harriet Tubman
8 Museum of Cape May, which is set to open this year.

9 Alice Paul was a women's rights activist, suffragist, and principal
10 leader of the early 1900's campaign for the Nineteenth Amendment
11 to the United States Constitution. She was born on January 11, 1885,
12 in Moorestown, New Jersey. Alice Paul was instrumental in the
13 passage and ratification in 1920 of the Nineteenth Amendment,
14 which prohibited denying any citizen the right to vote on the basis of
15 sex.

16 The bill enables the State, following the procedure established in
17 federal law, to formally ask the Joint Committee on the Library of
18 Congress to approve the replacement of the statues of Richard
19 Stockton and Philip Kearny the State had provided for display in the
20 National Statuary Hall Collection. If approved by the Joint
21 Committee, the new statues would be of Harriet Tubman and Alice
22 Paul.

23 The bill establishes a temporary, bi-partisan, seven-member
24 committee made up of:

25 (1) four members appointed by the Governor, upon
26 recommendation of the Senate President and the Speaker of the
27 General Assembly;

28 (2) the New Jersey Secretary of State, or a designee thereof; and

29 (3) two members appointed by the Governor.

30 The committee will select a sculptor or sculptors for the statues
31 and determine how to fund its completion and transportation to the
32 United States Capitol.