

ASSEMBLY, No. 5463

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 15, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblyman THOMAS P. GIBLIN

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Speight and Assemblyman Caputo

SYNOPSIS

Directs NJT to erect statue in honor of A. Philip Randolph; appropriates \$90,000.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/1/2021)

1 **AN ACT** directing the New Jersey Transit Corporation to erect and
2 maintain a statue in honor of A. Philip Randolph, supplementing
3 P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1, et seq.), and making an
4 appropriation.

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

8
9 1. The New Jersey Transit Corporation shall erect and maintain
10 a statue in honor of A. Philip Randolph to be located at Newark
11 Penn Station.

12
13 2. a. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Essex
14 County Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute the sum of
15 \$90,000 for the purpose of erecting a statue in honor of A. Philip
16 Randolph.

17 b. This appropriation shall be conditioned upon the New Jersey
18 Transit Corporation and the Essex County Chapter of the A. Philip
19 Randolph Institute entering into a formal agreement in which:

20 (1) The Essex County Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph
21 Institute shall agree to pay for the creation of a statue in honor of A.
22 Philip Randolph using appropriated funds as well as any other
23 required additional funds, which the Essex County Chapter of the
24 A. Philip Randolph Institute may receive from gifts, grants, or other
25 forms of financial assistance from private sources, including but not
26 limited to non-governmental non-profit, educational, or charitable
27 entities or institutions;

28 (2) The New Jersey Transit Corporation shall agree to make
29 space available at Newark Penn Station for the placement of the
30 statue; and

31 (3) Upon delivery of the statue, the New Jersey Transit
32 Corporation shall agree to pay for the cost of erecting the statue as
33 well as the cost of any ongoing maintenance.

34
35 3. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
36 inoperative until the formal agreement between Essex County
37 Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and New Jersey Transit
38 Corporation described in section 2 of this act is signed.

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STATEMENT

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43 This bill makes an appropriation of \$90,000 to the Essex County
44 Chapter of the A. Philip Randolph Institute for the purpose of
45 erecting a statue in honor of A. Philip Randolph to be located at
46 Newark Penn Station.

47 A. Philip Randolph was an American labor leader, civil rights
48 activist, and politician. From his 1912 co-founding of an

1 employment agency called the Brotherhood of Labor, to the
2 organization of the 1963 March on Washington where he shared the
3 podium with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who delivered his famous
4 "I Have a Dream" speech, Mr. Randolph was a leading figure
5 before, during and after the Civil Rights era.

6 Mr. Randolph also founded of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car
7 Porters in 1925, which by 1937 had become the first official
8 African American labor union, which continues to exist through the
9 Transportation Communications International Union and co-
10 founded the political magazine *The Messenger* in 1917, which
11 published articles calling for the inclusion of more Black people in
12 the armed forces and war industry and demanding higher wages for
13 Black workers. Mr. Randolph's accomplishments were further
14 recognized when he was presented with the Presidential Medal of
15 Freedom in 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

16 In an effort to continue the work he had dedicated his life to, Mr.
17 Randolph co-founded the A. Philip Randolph Institute, an
18 organization aimed at studying the causes of poverty which
19 continues to fight for racial equality and economic justice through
20 its numerous chapters located throughout the country with three
21 located in New Jersey. Mr. Randolph created an alliance between
22 the civil rights movement and the labor movement, with the goal of
23 uniting people of all backgrounds in the collective goals of political
24 and social freedom and economic justice. The triumphs and
25 accomplishments of A. Philip Randolph are just as important today
26 as they were during his lifetime and should be commemorated
27 through a visual representation of the man himself.