

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 167**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 23, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Urges Congress to pass “Families First Coronavirus Response Act.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** urging Congress to pass the
2 “Families First Coronavirus Response Act.”

3
4 **WHEREAS**, On March 11, 2020, U.S. Representative Nita M. Lowey
5 sponsored H.R. 6201, cited as the “Families First Coronavirus
6 Response Act,” and co-sponsored by Education and Labor
7 Committee Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA), Energy and Commerce
8 Committee Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ), Ways and Means
9 Committee Chairman Richard E. Neal (D-MA), and Agriculture
10 Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-MN); and

11 **WHEREAS**, The legislation provides paid leave, establishes free
12 coronavirus testing, supports strong unemployment benefits,
13 expands food assistance for vulnerable children and families,
14 protects frontline health workers, and provides additional funding to
15 states for the ongoing economic consequences of the pandemic,
16 among other provisions; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Chairwoman Lowey notes that “The coronavirus has
18 officially reached a pandemic level, with a rising death toll and
19 deepening impacts on workers and families in communities across
20 the United States. While the \$8.3 billion coronavirus supplemental
21 [appropriation] we enacted into law was a crucial step that
22 stabilized our public health system, more support for working
23 families is clearly needed. House Democrats’ new legislation puts
24 working families first by providing new resources and more
25 protections as our country faces this public health emergency”; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Chairman Scott notes that “The spread of COVID-19 will
27 present increasingly severe challenges for students, workers, and
28 families across the country. We must deliver a bold and targeted
29 response to support communities through this public health crisis.
30 The Families First Coronavirus Response Act provides our
31 constituents the health coverage, food assistance, and financial
32 support they need to cope with the widespread consequences of this
33 pandemic. This legislation reflects our responsibility to stand with
34 the American people as we confront this national emergency”; and

35 **WHEREAS**, Chairman Pallone notes that “Around the nation,
36 Americans are justifiably concerned about their health and the
37 health of their families. With this legislation, we are ensuring that
38 any American who thinks they may be infected with the virus can
39 be tested without having to worry about paying for the costs of the
40 test or the doctor visit. This will give people financial peace of
41 mind if they believe they may have the virus and need to be tested”;
42 and

43 **WHEREAS**, Chairman Peterson notes that “The provisions in this bill
44 for feeding programs like CR-SNAP will help make sure kids, the
45 elderly, and the working poor have the opportunity to get the food
46 they need in the event of a sustained disruption to their normal
47 routines”; now, therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
2 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

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4 1. The United States Congress is urged to pass H.R. 6201, cited
5 as the “Families First Coronavirus Response Act,” to bolster the
6 federal government’s response to the coronavirus outbreak and
7 address the severe impacts of the coronavirus on Americans’
8 personal safety and financial security.

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10 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
11 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the
12 President of the United States and every member of the New Jersey
13 Congressional delegation.

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STATEMENT

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18 This concurrent resolution urges Congress to pass H.R. 6201,
19 cited as the “Families First Coronavirus Response Act,” to bolster
20 the federal government’s response to the coronavirus outbreak and
21 address the severe impacts of the coronavirus on Americans’
22 personal safety and financial security. The legislation provides paid
23 leave, establishes free coronavirus testing, supports strong
24 unemployment benefits, expands food assistance for vulnerable
25 children and families, protects frontline health workers, and
26 provides additional funding to states for the ongoing economic
27 consequences of the pandemic, among other provisions.