

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. 21**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Amends Constitution to give public employees the right to collective bargaining.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)**

1   **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** proposing to amend Article I,  
2       paragraph 19 of the New Jersey Constitution.

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

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7       1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of  
8       the State of New Jersey is agreed to:

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10                                   PROPOSED AMENDMENT

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12       Amend Article I, paragraph 19 of the Constitution to read as  
13       follows:

14       19. Persons in private employment shall have the right to  
15       organize and bargain collectively. Persons in public employment  
16       shall have the right to organize, present to and make known to the  
17       State, or any of its political subdivisions or agencies, their  
18       grievances and proposals, and engage in collective bargaining,  
19       through representatives of their own choosing.

20       (cf: Article I, paragraph 19)

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22       2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally  
23       agreed to pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it  
24       shall be submitted to the people at the next general election  
25       occurring more than three months after the final agreement and  
26       shall be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each  
27       county designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
28       General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than three  
29       months prior to the general election.

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31       3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be  
32       submitted to the people at that election in the following manner and  
33       form:

34       There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the  
35       general election, the following:

36       a. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,  
37       a legend which shall immediately precede the question as follows:

38       If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X), plus  
39       (+), or check ( ✓ ) in the square opposite the word "Yes." If you are  
40       opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check ( ✓ ) in the  
41       square opposite the word "No."

42       b. In every municipality the following question:

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

|  |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | YES | CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT<br>PROVIDING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES THE<br>RIGHT OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING<br>Do you approve an amendment to Article I<br>of the State Constitution to provide that<br>public employees have the right to engage in<br>collective bargaining?                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|  | NO  | INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT<br>This amendment to the Constitution<br>provides that public employees have the<br>right to engage in collective bargaining<br>through representatives of their own<br>choosing. The Constitution currently<br>provides public employees with the right to<br>organize and submit grievances and<br>proposals to their employers, but does not<br>specifically state that “collective<br>bargaining” is a right of public employees. |

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STATEMENT

This constitutional amendment provides that public employees  
have the specific right to engage in collective bargaining.