

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 11

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PARKER SPACE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen DiMaio and Wirths

SYNOPSIS

Designates fourth Saturday of September each year as “New Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the fourth Saturday of
2 September each year as “New Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day.”
3
4 **WHEREAS**, Hunting and fishing are cornerstones of the American
5 recreational experience, connecting residents to the outdoors, and
6 promoting healthy living and environmental stewardship; and
7 **WHEREAS**, In 2011, an estimated 13.7 million Americans took a
8 combined 257 million hunting trips, and 33.1 million anglers took
9 455 million fishing trips; and
10 **WHEREAS**, In New Jersey, in particular, 94,000 hunters took a
11 combined 2.6 million hunting trips, and 766,000 anglers took 8.4
12 million fishing trips, generating billions of dollars in economic
13 activity for the State; and
14 **WHEREAS**, More than 750,000 acres of public lands in New Jersey,
15 including acreage in 27 State parks and forests, are open to hunters,
16 providing an exceptional diversity of habitat and harboring
17 numerous game species, such as deer, wild turkey, and waterfowl;
18 and
19 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey’s 127 miles of coastline, hundreds of miles of
20 bay shore, and numerous inland lakes and tributaries provide some
21 of the best and most diverse fishing opportunities in the country,
22 including saltwater fishing for striped bass and flounder, and stream
23 fishing for brook trout; and
24 **WHEREAS**, Hunting and fishing are excellent opportunities for families
25 to spend time together and for children to learn more about wildlife
26 and the environment; and
27 **WHEREAS**, Hunting and fishing are also believed by many to be
28 significant stress-relieving activities; and
29 **WHEREAS**, People who hunt and fish are also more likely to value and
30 help conserve the environment, and funds from hunting and fishing
31 licenses, and excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, archery, and
32 angling equipment, in New Jersey and across the country go toward
33 wildlife conservation programs; and
34 **WHEREAS**, “National Hunting and Fishing Day,” which takes place on
35 the fourth Saturday of September each year, was formally
36 established by Congress in 1972 to recognize the aesthetic, health,
37 and recreational virtues of hunting and fishing; and
38 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper to establish “New Jersey
39 Hunting and Fishing Day” on the fourth Saturday of September
40 each year in order to encourage more residents to participate in
41 these fun and healthy activities, and thereby assist wildlife
42 conservation efforts; now, therefore,
43
44 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
45 *State of New Jersey:*
46
47 1. The fourth Saturday of September each year is designated as
48 “New Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day,” in order to highlight the

1 importance of hunting and fishing in enhancing people's quality of
2 life and in conserving the State's wildlife and natural beauty.

3
4 2. The Governor may annually issue a proclamation calling
5 upon public officials and citizens of the State to observe "New
6 Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day" with appropriate programs and
7 activities.

8
9 3. The Division of Fish and Wildlife in the Department of
10 Environmental Protection shall take appropriate measures each year
11 to publicize "New Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day," and coordinate
12 at least one of the State's free fishing days, selected pursuant to
13 section 1 of P.L.1985, c.352 (C.23:3-1b), with that day.

14
15 4. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

16
17
18 STATEMENT

19
20 This joint resolution would designate the fourth Saturday of
21 September each year as "New Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day."

22 Hunting and fishing are cornerstones of the American
23 recreational experience. In 2011, an estimated 94,000 hunters took
24 a combined 2.6 million hunting trips, and 766,000 anglers took 8.4
25 million fishing trips, generating billions of dollars in economic
26 activity in the State. More than 750,000 acres of public lands in
27 New Jersey are open to hunters, and provide an exceptional
28 diversity of habitat and harbor numerous game species.
29 Additionally, New Jersey's 127 miles of coastline, hundreds of
30 miles of bay shore, and numerous inland lakes and tributaries
31 provide some of the best and most diverse fishing in the country.

32 Hunting and fishing are excellent opportunities for families to
33 spend time together, and for children to learn more about wildlife
34 and the environment. Hunting and fishing are also believed by
35 many to be significant stress-relieving activities. People who hunt
36 and fish are also more likely to value and help conserve the
37 environment, and funds from hunting and fishing licenses, and
38 excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, archery, and angling
39 equipment, in New Jersey and across the country go toward wildlife
40 conservation programs. By designating "New Jersey Hunting and
41 Fishing Day," it is hoped that this will encourage more residents to
42 participate in hunting and fishing.

43 The joint resolution would request the Governor to annually
44 issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and citizens of the
45 State to observe "New Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day" with
46 appropriate activities and programs. It would also direct the
47 Division of Fish and Wildlife in the Department of Environmental
48 Protection to take appropriate measures each year to publicize

- 1 “New Jersey Hunting and Fishing Day,” and to coordinate at least
- 2 one of the State’s free fishing days, selected pursuant to section 1 of
- 3 P.L.1985, c.352 (C.23:3-1b), with that day.