

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 134

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman HAROLD "HAL" J. WIRTHS

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DeAngelo

SYNOPSIS

Designates first full week of June each year as “New Jersey Fishing and Boating Week.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 4/9/2020)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the first full week of June each
2 year as “New Jersey Fishing and Boating Week.”
3
4 **WHEREAS**, Fishing and boating 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 2012, an estimated 47 million Americans participated in
8 fishing, making one billion outings, and 46 million Americans
9 participated in boating, making 805 million outings – 58 percent of
10 which involved fishing; and
11 **WHEREAS**, In New Jersey, in particular, 766,000 anglers spent a total
12 of 9.5 million days fishing in 2011, with the vast majority of New
13 Jersey residents choosing to remain in-State to fish; and
14 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey’s State parks and natural areas, 127 miles of
15 coastline, hundreds of miles of bayshore, and numerous inland
16 lakes and tributaries provide countless fishing and boating
17 opportunities; and
18 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey also offers some of the best and most diverse
19 fishing in the country, including saltwater fishing for striped bass
20 and flounder and stream fishing for brook trout; and
21 **WHEREAS**, In addition to great fishing, New Jersey hosts a variety of
22 boating activities, such as sailing, cruising, dining and entertaining,
23 nature observation, and water sports, all of which are available
24 along the Jersey Shore and the State’s numerous inland lakes and
25 tributaries; and
26 **WHEREAS**, Recreational fishing and boating are excellent
27 opportunities for families to spend time together, and for children to
28 learn more about aquatic life and the environment; and
29 **WHEREAS**, Fishing and boating are also believed by many to be
30 significant stress-relieving activities; and
31 **WHEREAS**, People who fish and boat are also more likely to value and
32 help conserve the environment, and funds from fishing licenses,
33 boat registrations, and excise taxes in New Jersey and across the
34 country go toward conservation of natural aquatic areas; and
35 **WHEREAS**, National Fishing and Boating Week, which often takes
36 place at the beginning of June, highlights the importance of fishing
37 and boating in enhancing people’s quality of life and preserving the
38 country’s natural beauty; and
39 **WHEREAS**, By designating New Jersey Fishing and Boating Week in
40 June, it is hoped that this will encourage all people to participate in
41 fishing and boating, and enjoy the natural beauty of the State in one
42 of the best months to take it in; now, therefore,
43
44 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
45 *State of New Jersey:*
46
47 1. The first full week of June each year is designated as “New
48 Jersey Fishing and Boating Week,” in order to highlight the

1 importance of fishing and boating in enhancing people's quality of
2 life and in preserving the State's 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 Fishing and Boating Week" with appropriate activities and
7 programs.

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

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

16
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18 STATEMENT

19
20 This joint resolution would designate the first full week of June
21 each year as "New Jersey Fishing and Boating Week."

22 Fishing and boating are cornerstones of the American
23 recreational experience. In 2012, an estimated 47 million
24 Americans participated in fishing and 46 million Americans
25 participated in boating. In New Jersey, in particular, 766,000
26 anglers spent a total of 9.5 million days fishing in 2011. The
27 State's parks and natural areas, 127 miles of coastline, hundreds of
28 miles of bayshore, and numerous inland lakes and tributaries
29 provide countless fishing and boating opportunities. New Jersey
30 also offers some of the best and most diverse fishing in the country,
31 including saltwater fishing for striped bass and flounder and stream
32 fishing for brook trout. The State hosts a variety of boating
33 activities, such as sailing, cruising, dining and entertaining, nature
34 observation, and water sports.

35 Recreational fishing and boating are excellent opportunities for
36 families to spend time together, and for people to learn about and
37 help conserve the natural environment. Fishing and boating are also
38 believed by many to be significant stress-relieving activities.
39 National Fishing and Boating Week, which often takes place at the
40 beginning of June, highlights the importance of fishing and boating
41 in enhancing people's quality of life and preserving the country's
42 natural beauty. By designating New Jersey Fishing and Boating
43 Week in June, it is hoped that this will encourage all people to
44 participate in fishing and boating, and enjoy the natural beauty of
45 the State in one of the best months to take it in.

46 This joint resolution would request the Governor to annually
47 issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and citizens of the
48 State to observe "New Jersey Fishing and Boating Week" with

1 appropriate activities and programs. It would also direct the
2 Division of Fish and Wildlife to take appropriate measures each
3 year to publicize “New Jersey Fishing and Boating Week,” and to
4 coordinate at least one of the State’s free fishing days, selected
5 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1985, c.352 (C.23:3-1b), with that
6 week.