

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 156

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GERARD SCHARFENBERGER, PHD

District 13 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Designates July 8 of each year as “New Jersey Revolutionary War Remembrance Day.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating July 8 of each year as “New
2 Jersey Revolutionary War Remembrance Day.”
3
4 **WHEREAS**, The American Revolution remains a triumph for the cause
5 of liberty, self-government, and the rule of law both here and
6 around the globe; and
7 **WHEREAS**, Victory in this conflict would not have been possible if not
8 for the brave men and women who laid down their lives in order to
9 protect their rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and
10 **WHEREAS**, Nearly 13,000 Americans were killed or injured as a result
11 of the war; and
12 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey played an important role in the American
13 Revolution given its location between the British stronghold of
14 New York and the patriot capital of Philadelphia; and
15 **WHEREAS**, Communities across the State sent many of their young
16 men to fight in the Continental Army, found themselves divided
17 between the patriot and loyalist causes, and were witness to the
18 war’s devastation; and
19 **WHEREAS**, From the conclusion of the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775
20 until the British formally surrendered at Yorktown in 1783, nearly
21 300 significant military engagements occurred within the State
22 earning it the nickname “Crossroads of the American Revolution”;
23 and
24 **WHEREAS**, Of particular significance were the Ten Crucial Days
25 Campaign and the Battle of Monmouth which turned the tide in
26 favor of the colonists; and
27 **WHEREAS**, The Ten Crucial Days Campaign took place from
28 December 25, 1776 to January 3, 1777 and describes the 10-day
29 period where the Continental Army, after suffering a disastrous
30 defeat at the Battle of Long Island, secured key victories at the
31 Battles of Trenton, Assunpink Creek, and Princeton; and
32 **WHEREAS**, The Battle of Monmouth took place on June 28, 1778 near
33 present-day Freehold and while the battle did not produce a clear
34 winner, the Continental Army emerged with a newfound sense of
35 confidence in both their fighting abilities and Washington’s
36 leadership at a time when ultimate victory was uncertain; and
37 **WHEREAS**, It is these two engagements which served as inspiration for
38 the iconic images of Washington crossing the Delaware River and
39 Molly Pitcher loading a cannon at the Battle of Monmouth; and
40 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey was also the site of the Continental Army’s
41 infamous encampment at Jockey Hollow where soldiers battled
42 extreme winter weather and supply shortages; and
43 **WHEREAS**, By the time the conflict officially ended, Washington spent
44 more time in New Jersey than any other state; and
45 **WHEREAS**, Today, New Jersey has over 250 Revolutionary War sites
46 listed on the National Register of Historic Places providing
47 Americans with the opportunity to learn more about their national
48 heritage; and

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3 **WHEREAS**, This State should continue to highlight the important role
4 it played in the American Revolution and remember those in New
5 Jersey who lost their lives fighting for our nation's independence;
6 and

11
12 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
13 *State of New Jersey:*

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21 2. The Governor is respectfully requested to issue an annual

22 proclamation calling upon public officials and citizens of this State

23 to observe “New Jersey Revolutionary War Remembrance Day”

24 with appropriate activities and programs.

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In many respects, the story of American Independence cannot be told without New Jersey. Today, New Jersey has over 250 Revolutionary War sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was witness to nearly 300 significant military engagements from 1775 to 1783. It was here that Washington, on two separate occasions, turned the tide of the war by crossing the Delaware River to launch a surprise attack on Hessian soldiers at Trenton in December 1776 and rallying his troops at the Battle of Monmouth in June 1778. It is also the place where the Continental Army infamously endured its harshest winter while encamped at Jockey Hollow in the winter of 1779-1780.

47 To bring greater attention to the important role this State played
48 in the American Revolution and to remember those in New Jersey

AJR156 SCHARFENBERGER

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- 1 who lost their lives fighting for our nation's independence, the
- 2 sponsor believes it is appropriate to designate July 8 as "New Jersey
- 3 Revolutionary War Remembrance Day."