ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION
No. 197

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 10, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman GERARD SCHARFENBERGER
District 13 (Monmouth)
Assemblyman BRIAN BERGEN
District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Designates month of May of each year as "Law Enforcement and Correctional Police Officer Appreciation Month" in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/13/2021)

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the month of May of each year as "Law Enforcement and Correctional Police Officer Appreciation Month" in New Jersey.

WHEREAS, Law enforcement and correctional police officers in this State and throughout the nation are routinely called upon to serve and protect their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Law enforcement officers protect the community by responding to horrendous events and acting heroically to save the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Correctional police officers provide public safety and security through the custody and management of those individuals incarcerated within the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, It is increasingly dangerous to perform these jobs in a world where law enforcement and correctional police officers are targeted for the uniforms they wear and the duties they perform in service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Law enforcement and correctional police officers in this State and throughout the nation serve with valor, dignity, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, As of October 2020, 235 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty in the United States in less than one year, including nine officers in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, As COVID-19 continues to spread around the country, the first responders on the front lines are increasingly vulnerable to contracting the virus and at least eight correctional police officers have died resulting from this pandemic; and

WHEREAS, These officer's deaths are a sober reminder that our nation's law enforcement and correctional police officers face danger every day they carry out their sworn duty to protect the citizens of this country; and

WHEREAS, Countless other law enforcement and correctional police officers are injured and disabled each year while performing their duties; and

WHEREAS, These burdens are carried not only by law enforcement and correctional police officers, but also by their families who make personal sacrifices in order for these officers to carry out their duties; and

WHEREAS, In light of recent negativity directed toward law enforcement nationally, there is a need to show law enforcement and correctional police officers that our citizens recognize the difficult career these officers have chosen; and

WHEREAS, These men and women, by their distinctive service and dedicated efforts as law enforcement and correctional police officers, have earned our highest respect and deepest gratitude; now, therefore,

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

1. The month of May of each year is designated "Law Enforcement and Correctional Police Officer Appreciation Month" in New Jersey to encourage the citizens of this State to join in the observance of this month and provide appreciation for the law enforcement and correctional police officers who serve and protect them.

2. The Governor respectfully is requested to issue a proclamation recognizing May as "Law Enforcement and Correctional Police Officer Appreciation Month" and calling upon public officials and the residents of New Jersey to observe the month with appropriate activities and programs.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This joint resolution designates the month of May of each year as "Law Enforcement and Correctional Police Officer Appreciation Month" and calls upon public officials and the residents of New Jersey to observe the month with appropriate activities and programs.

In light of recent negativity directed toward law enforcement nationally, this joint resolution appropriately honors law enforcement and correctional police officers.

It is the Sponsor's intent to ensure that the citizens of New Jersey recognize the difficult career these officers have chosen and that these officers deserve our highest respect and deepest gratitude.