

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 24

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Johnson

SYNOPSIS

Designates “Crossing Guard Appreciation Day” in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/10/2020)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating “Crossing Guard Appreciation
2 Day” in New Jersey as the day on which International Walk to
3 School Day occurs annually in October.
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Crossing guards work to ensure the safety and welfare of
6 students of all ages as they travel to and from school by directing
7 traffic and signaling the safe crossing of dangerous streets,
8 intersections, or railroad crossings, and educating students and
9 others about school safety policies and enforcement procedures;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, Crossing guards must be able to communicate clearly and
12 exercise good judgment as they are called upon to intervene in
13 potential emergencies, and are charged with monitoring students
14 and reporting observations about accidents, fights, or other dangers
15 to facilitate follow-up by appropriate personnel; and

16 **WHEREAS**, State law requires that crossing guards meet certain
17 qualifications, complete classroom instruction and supervised field
18 training, and be provided with an identifying uniform, to include a
19 safety vest; and

20 **WHEREAS**, In carrying out their duties, crossing guards brave difficult
21 and sometimes dangerous weather conditions and in a state as
22 densely populated as New Jersey, the hazards of vehicular traffic
23 are particularly significant; and

24 **WHEREAS**, As of May 2015, approximately 5,820 crossing guards
25 were employed in New Jersey, the third highest number in the
26 country; and

27 **WHEREAS**, The number of schools located in pedestrian-friendly
28 neighborhoods in the State is one reason for the State’s high
29 concentration of crossing guards, and in recent years increased
30 numbers of students walk or bike to school making crossing guards
31 even more important; and

32 **WHEREAS**, Crossing guards dutifully perform their responsibilities in
33 the service of others while putting themselves at risk for injuries or
34 accidents; and

35 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper that the hard work and dedication of
36 crossing guards in safeguarding our children and communities be
37 formally recognized; now, therefore,
38

39 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
40 *State of New Jersey:*
41

42 1. “Crossing Guard Appreciation Day” in New Jersey shall
43 coincide with the observance of International Walk to School Day
44 occurring annually in the second week of October, to recognize the
45 vital service and contributions of crossing guards to the safety and
46 welfare of the children and communities of this State.

2. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and citizens of this State to observe “Crossing Guard Appreciation Day” with appropriate activities and programs.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This joint resolution designates the day on which International Walk to School Day is annually observed, generally during the second week of October, as “Crossing Guard Appreciation Day.”

Crossing guards perform an essential role by ensuring that students who walk or bike to and from school safely navigate vehicular traffic and other hazards. In addition, they communicate information about accidents or other dangers that they observe to facilitate appropriate follow-up, and educate students and other pedestrians about safety policies and the possible consequences of noncompliance. Crossing guards put themselves at risk of physical injury as they perform their duties in severe weather conditions and heavy motor vehicle traffic in the service of school children and other pedestrians.

It is fitting that the valued contributions of crossing guards to the safety of our communities be annually acknowledged.