

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 250

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 9, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Designates the third week of September of each year as “Forensic Science Week” in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the third week of September of
2 each year as “Forensic Science Week” in New Jersey.

3
4 **WHEREAS**, Forensic scientists play a critical role in the justice system
5 by conducting investigations and analyzing evidence that may
6 become relevant to court cases; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Forensic science is a wide-reaching field that includes
8 several sub-disciplines, such as crime scene investigation, biology
9 and DNA studies, anthropology, pathology, trace evidence, sexual
10 assault reform, toxicology, seized drugs and laboratory operations;
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, Forensic science allows the authorities to narrow down
13 and positively identify a criminal suspect, determine when and
14 how a crime occurred, and identify victims’ bodies; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Forensic scientists use evidence-based methodologies to
16 determine crime victims’ causes of death and identify murder
17 weapons; and

18 **WHEREAS**, New technologies and methodologies are changing the
19 way investigations and trials are conducted in the New Jersey
20 criminal justice system; and

21 **WHEREAS**, The collaborative effort between science and law
22 enforcement will help safeguard integrity and fairness in the
23 criminal justice system; and

24 **WHEREAS**, National Forensic Science Week occurs in the month of
25 September to recognize the contribution that forensic science makes
26 to criminal justice and encourage the collaborative effort of the two;
27 and

28 **WHEREAS**, This national celebration is a time to recognize the
29 important role that proper forensic science plays in the investigation
30 of crimes across the country, such as the exoneration of innocent
31 people and bringing perpetrators to justice; and

32 **WHEREAS**, The State of New Jersey should recognize the contribution
33 that forensic science makes to the criminal justice system and honor
34 its forensic scientists; now, therefore,

35
36 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
37 *State of New Jersey:*

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39 1. The third week of September of each year is designated as
40 “Forensic Science Week” in New Jersey.

41
42 2. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a
43 proclamation and call upon public officials, private organizations,
44 and all citizens of this State to observe “Forensic Science Week”
45 with appropriate awareness activities and programs.

46
47 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This joint resolution designates the third week of September of each year as “Forensic Science Week” in New Jersey.

Forensic scientists play a critical role in the justice system by conducting investigations and examining evidence that may become relevant to court cases. Forensic science is a wide-reaching field that includes sub-disciplines, such as crime scene investigation, biology and DNA studies, anthropology, pathology, toxicology and laboratory operations. New technologies and methodologies are changing the way investigations and trials are conducted in the New Jersey criminal justice system. Forensic science allows the authorities to narrow down and identify criminal suspects, determine when and how a crime occurred, identify victims’ bodies, determine victims’ cause of death and identify murder weapons. National Forensic Science Week takes place in September to recognize the contribution that forensic science makes to criminal justice and encourage the collaborative effort of the two. The State of New Jersey should recognize the contribution that forensic science makes to the justice system and honor its forensic scientists.