

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 45

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO

District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Designates second week of September of each year as “Library Awareness Week in New Jersey.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of:)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the second week of September
2 of each year as “Library Awareness Week in New Jersey.”

3
4 **WHEREAS**, Libraries are vital institutions and dynamic centers of
5 lifelong learning that play a unique role in ensuring the public’s
6 right to know and empowering people from all walks of life to
7 make informed decisions about the world around them; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Libraries serve as a critical cornerstone of a democratic
9 society by providing access to a wealth of information that covers
10 an impressive array of subjects and perspectives. Most libraries
11 have enhanced this mission in recent years by offering internet
12 access at their locations in an effort to help narrow the digital divide
13 between those families who have internet access at home and those
14 families with limited or no internet access; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Libraries are true community centers offering a myriad of
16 services including, but not limited to, reading rooms, meeting
17 spaces, and valuable programs such as children’s storytelling hours,
18 tutoring, English as a Second Language instruction, and book clubs;
19 and

20 **WHEREAS**, Library professionals work with dedication and
21 determination to connect library users with the information they
22 need, whether it be in helping a child choose his first book, aiding a
23 citizen locate needed tax forms, or assisting a researcher to track
24 down a hard-to-find text; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Libraries in the State of New Jersey and around the nation
26 play a key role in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and
27 equity of access to information, which are vital to a democratic
28 society; and

29 **WHEREAS**, It is both fitting and appropriate to foster public pride and
30 support of the State’s libraries, promote awareness and use of their
31 valuable resources, and recognize the many contributions of library
32 professionals to our communities; now, therefore,

33
34 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
35 *State of New Jersey:*

36
37 1. The second week of September of each year is designated as
38 “Library Awareness Week in New Jersey.”

39
40 2. The Governor is requested to annually issue a proclamation
41 recognizing the second week of September of each year as “Library
42 Awareness Week in New Jersey” and calling upon public officials
43 and the residents of the State of New Jersey to observe the week
44 with appropriate activities and programs that recognize the critical
45 role that libraries and their dedicated staff play in a democratic
46 society.

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

1 STATEMENT

2

3 This Joint Resolution designates the second week of September
4 of each year as “Library Awareness Week in New Jersey.”

5 Libraries are critical institutions and dynamic centers of lifelong
6 learning that play a unique role in ensuring the public’s right to
7 know and empowering people from all walks of life to make
8 informed decisions about the world around them. Libraries also
9 play a key role in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and
10 equity of access to information and are the cornerstone of our
11 democracy. It is therefore appropriate to foster public pride and
12 support of the State’s libraries, promote awareness and use of their
13 valuable resources, and recognize the many contributions of library
14 professionals by establishing a “Library Awareness Week in New
15 Jersey.”