

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 59

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SERENA DIMASO

District 13 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Designates October 29 of each year as “Superstorm Sandy Remembrance Day” in NJ.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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- 1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating October 29 of each year as
2 “Superstorm Sandy Remembrance Day” in New Jersey.
3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, Superstorm Sandy swept through the Caribbean and up the
5 East Coast of the United States in late October 2012, making
6 landfall in southern New Jersey on October 29, 2012; and
7 **WHEREAS**, In addition to being one of the most costly natural disasters
8 in United States history, Superstorm Sandy was the most
9 destructive natural disaster ever to hit the State of New Jersey; and
10 **WHEREAS**, According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
11 Administration, Superstorm Sandy caused a total of approximately
12 \$70 billion of damage in the United States; and
13 **WHEREAS**, Superstorm Sandy was estimated to cause nearly \$30
14 billion in damages to New Jersey alone, left nearly 40 people dead
15 in the State, and was estimated to have forced approximately
16 50,000 homeowners and renters out of their primary residences; and
17 **WHEREAS**, According to the New Jersey Department of
18 Environmental Protection, devastation in the State from Superstorm
19 Sandy included: 346,000 damaged homes; 1,400 sunken or
20 abandoned vessels; 70 drinking water systems affected by power
21 loss and damages; and 80 wastewater treatment plants affected by
22 power loss and damages; and
23 **WHEREAS**, While Superstorm Sandy impacted all parts of New Jersey,
24 many of the State’s Shore communities were especially hard-hit as
25 entire coastlines of beaches experienced significant erosion and
26 millions of residents lost power for extended periods of time; and
27 **WHEREAS**, Thousands of New Jersey residents have experienced long-
28 term effects resulting from Superstorm Sandy, as they have
29 struggled in repairing, reconstructing, or even returning to their
30 homes; and
31 **WHEREAS**, Despite dangerous conditions caused by high winds, rain,
32 and flooding, thousands of Federal Emergency Management
33 Agency personnel, State and local emergency response staff,
34 emergency shelter staff, and volunteers provided critically
35 important services in response to Superstorm Sandy; and
36 **WHEREAS**, “Superstorm Sandy Remembrance Day” is designated in
37 New Jersey to reflect on the widespread damage Superstorm Sandy
38 caused and to recognize and remember those who lost their lives
39 during the Storm, those who have struggled in recovering from the
40 damage the Storm caused, and those who provided crucial
41 emergency response services; now, therefore,
42
- 43 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
44 *State of New Jersey:*
45
- 46 1. October 29 of each year is designated as “Superstorm Sandy
47 Remembrance Day” in New Jersey to reflect on the widespread
48 damage Superstorm Sandy caused and to recognize and remember

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1 those who lost their lives during the Storm, those who have
2 struggled to recover from the damage the Storm caused, and those
3 who provided crucial emergency response services.

4
5 2. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a
6 proclamation recognizing October 29 of each year as “Superstorm
7 Sandy Remembrance Day” in New Jersey, and call upon public
8 officials and the citizens of this State to observe the day with
9 appropriate activities and programs.

10
11 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

12 13 14 STATEMENT

15
16 This joint resolution designates October 29 of each year as
17 “Superstorm Sandy Remembrance Day” in New Jersey to reflect on
18 the widespread damage Superstorm Sandy caused and to recognize
19 and remember those who lost their lives during the Storm, those
20 who have struggled to recover from the damage the Storm caused,
21 and those who provided crucial emergency response services.

22 Superstorm Sandy made landfall in southern New Jersey on
23 October 29, 2012, causing nearly \$30 billion in damages to New
24 Jersey, leaving nearly 40 people dead in the State, and forcing an
25 estimated 50,000 homeowners and renters out of their primary
26 residences. Superstorm Sandy cost a total of approximately \$70
27 billion in damage in the United States. The Storm also caused
28 significant damage to various pieces of infrastructure throughout
29 the State.

30 While Superstorm Sandy impacted all parts of New Jersey, many
31 of the State’s Shore communities were especially hard-hit as entire
32 coastlines of beaches experienced significant erosion and millions
33 of residents lost power for extended periods of time. Thousands of
34 New Jersey residents have experienced long-term effects resulting
35 from damage caused by Superstorm Sandy, as they have struggled
36 in repairing, reconstructing, or even returning to their homes.

37 Despite dangerous conditions resulting from high winds, rain,
38 and flooding, thousands of Federal Emergency Management
39 Agency personnel, State and local emergency response staff,
40 emergency shelter staff, and volunteers provided critically
41 important services in response to Superstorm Sandy.