

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 154

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 4, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman BETTYLOU DECROCE

District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblymen Bramnick, DePhillips, Assemblywoman Timberlake, Assemblymen Rooney, Danielsens, Assemblywomen Jimenez, Lampitt, Assemblyman Peters, Assemblywoman Dunn, Assemblyman Thomson, Assemblywoman Stanfield, Assemblyman Dancer, Assemblywoman Gove, Assemblymen Zwicker, Holley, Assemblywoman Jasey, Assemblymen Mukherji, Caputo, Giblin, Calabrese, Benson, Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblyman Bergen, Assemblywoman Schepisi, Assemblymen Auth, Karabinchak, Assemblywoman Sumter, Assemblymen Mejia, Conaway, Freiman, Assemblywomen N.Munoz, Speight, Assemblymen Chiaravalloti, Johnson, S.Kean, Armato, Mazzeo, Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblyman Kennedy, Assemblywomen Pintor Marin, McKnight, Assemblymen Space, Wirths and Coughlin

SYNOPSIS

Honors contributions of teachers and recognizes National Teacher Appreciation Week.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/14/2020)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** honoring the contributions of teachers
2 and recognizing May 4 through May 8, 2020 as “National
3 Teacher Appreciation Week.”
4
5 **WHEREAS**, The foundation of American freedom and democracy is a
6 strong, effective system of education wherein every child has the
7 opportunity to learn in a safe and nurturing environment; and
8 **WHEREAS**, The strength of New Jersey’s education system is a
9 reflection of the teachers of this State, each of whom dedicates their
10 time and efforts toward ensuring that every student has a chance to
11 succeed; and
12 **WHEREAS**, The educators of this State dedicate countless hours to
13 preparing lessons, evaluating progress, and counseling and
14 coaching students, all to support their students’ academic, social,
15 and emotional well-being; and
16 **WHEREAS**, While the importance of their efforts is often overlooked,
17 teachers are shaping the next generation of citizens and
18 entrepreneurs who will lead this nation for years to come; and
19 **WHEREAS**, Following the recent outbreak of the novel coronavirus,
20 COVID-19, and the public health emergency that ensued, the
21 people of New Jersey are again reminded of the tireless
22 contributions of their teachers, who have risen to the occasion to
23 support our children during a period of unprecedented crisis; and
24 **WHEREAS**, During the public health emergency, which resulted in the
25 closure of all public, private, and parochial schools in the State,
26 teachers quickly responded by developing innovative lesson plans
27 to allow over 1.4 million public school students to continue their
28 education through remote instruction; and
29 **WHEREAS**, Despite the many challenges posed by remote instruction,
30 the State’s educators have successfully employed unique teaching
31 strategies using online platforms to help students understand
32 abstract concepts and develop critical-thinking skills, all of which
33 are essential to academic development; and
34 **WHEREAS**, During this time, teachers have also spent countless hours
35 collaborating with parents to ensure that every student remains
36 engaged with their schoolwork, even while many of these teachers
37 continue to care for their own children who are also at home; and
38 **WHEREAS**, Although the societal effects of COVID-19 may recede
39 with time, the contributions of educators during this public health
40 emergency will always be remembered; and
41 **WHEREAS**, In light of these contributions, it is altogether fitting and
42 proper for the State of New Jersey to recognize and celebrate
43 “National Teacher Appreciation Week,” which has been annually
44 observed during the first full week of May since 1985; and
45 **WHEREAS**, While the nation regularly observes “National Teacher
46 Appreciation Week” as a time to remember the importance of
47 educators throughout the country, there has never been a more
48 appropriate time for this State to recognize the exceptional efforts
49 and enduring contributions of its teachers; now, therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
2 *Jersey:*

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4 1. This House honors the contributions of teachers in response
5 to the COVID-19 public health emergency and recognizes May 4
6 through May 8, 2020 as “National Teacher Appreciation Week.”

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8 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of the
9 State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to
10 the Governor, the State Board of Education, the Commissioner of
11 Education, and the board of education of each school district in the
12 State, and the chief administrative officer of each nonpublic school
13 in the State.

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STATEMENT

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18 This Assembly resolution honors the contributions of teachers in
19 response to the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, public health
20 emergency and recognizes May 4 through May 8, 2020 as “National
21 Teacher Appreciation Week.”

22 Following the recent outbreak of the novel coronavirus, COVID-
23 19, and the public health emergency that ensued, the people of New
24 Jersey are reminded of the tireless contributions of their teachers,
25 who have risen to the occasion to support our children during a
26 period of unprecedented crisis. During the public health
27 emergency, which resulted in the closure of all public, private, and
28 parochial schools in the State, teachers quickly responded by
29 developing innovative lesson plans to allow over 1.4 million public
30 school students to continue their education through remote
31 instruction.

32 Despite the many challenges posed by remote instruction, the
33 State’s educators have successfully employed unique teaching
34 strategies using online platforms to help students understand
35 abstract concepts and develop critical-thinking skills, all of which
36 are essential to academic development. During this time, teachers
37 have also spent countless hours collaborating with parents to ensure
38 that every student remains engaged with their schoolwork, even
39 while many of these teachers continue to care for their own children
40 who are also at home. Although the societal effects of COVID-19
41 may recede with time, the contributions of educators during this
42 public health emergency will always be remembered.

43 In light of these contributions, it is altogether fitting and proper
44 for the State of New Jersey to recognize and celebrate “National
45 Teacher Appreciation Week,” which has been annually observed
46 during the first full week of May since 1985.