

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 161

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 7, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman AURA K. DUNN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Urges federal government to provide aid to State to combat post-traumatic stress disorder due to coronavirus disease 2019.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/7/2020)

1 The United States faces an unprecedented public health crisis
2 due to COVID-19. The Governor has declared an extended Public
3 Health Emergency and State of Emergency due to COVID-19. New
4 Jersey has over 120,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases and nearly
5 8,000 deaths attributable to the disease.

6 Victims of COVID-19 and their families as well as those on the
7 frontlines of the war against COVID-19 are experiencing and
8 witnessing death, sickness, and tragedy on a daily basis. Post-
9 traumatic stress can occur after a person experiences daily exposure
10 to death, sickness, and tragedy. Post-traumatic stress disorder is
11 associated with chemical changes in the body's hormonal system
12 and autonomic nervous system, and is characterized by symptoms
13 including flashbacks, nightmares, insomnia, avoidance,
14 hypervigilance, anxiety, and depression.

15 While the federal government and State have devoted a great
16 deal of resources in the war against COVID-19, additional resources
17 are necessary to combat post-traumatic stress disorder. Those who
18 suffer from post-traumatic stress deserve the care they need to help
19 them overcome the disorder.