

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 54

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Opposes President Trump's decision to declare national emergency to fund wall on Mexico-US border.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** opposing President Trump’s decision
2 to declare a national emergency to fund a wall on the Mexico-
3 United States border.

4
5 **WHEREAS**, On Friday, February 15, 2019, President Trump declared a
6 state of national emergency to allocate nearly \$8 billion for
7 construction of a wall on the Mexico-United States border; and

8 **WHEREAS**, President Trump has disregarded the role of the United
9 States Congress and the separation of powers by redirecting federal
10 money toward a border wall; and

11 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey has joined fifteen other states in filing a
12 lawsuit challenging President Trump’s national emergency
13 declaration to pay for a border wall; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The “National Emergencies Act”, which gives the
15 President the authority to declare a national emergency, is intended
16 for times of national crisis; and

17 **WHEREAS**, In the past, emergency declarations by previous presidents
18 have been used for addressing foreign policy crises, including
19 blocking terrorism-linked entities from accessing funds or
20 prohibiting investment in nations associated with human rights
21 abuses; and

22 **WHEREAS**, A true emergency is one that is unforeseen and
23 unforeseeable, a situation in which extraordinary times call for
24 extraordinary measures; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Although President Trump has stated that the majority of
26 illegal drugs enter the United States through unprotected borders,
27 according to United States Customs and Border Protection
28 statistics, the majority of illegal drugs seized along the border were
29 caught at legal points of entry; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Building a wall on the Mexico-US border to prevent illegal
31 drugs and undocumented immigrants from entering the country is
32 not a true emergency situation; and

33 **WHEREAS**, President Trump has abused his power by declaring a
34 national emergency in order to fund a border wall; now, therefore,

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

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39 1. This House opposes President Trump’s decision to declare a
40 national emergency to fund a wall on the Mexico-United States
41 border.

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43 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
44 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the
45 President of the United States, the President of the United States
46 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
47 the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate and
48 United States House of Representatives, and each member of the
49 United States Congress elected from this State.

1 STATEMENT

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3 This resolution opposes President Trump’s decision to declare a
4 national emergency to fund a wall on the Mexico-United States
5 border. President Trump has disregarded the separation of powers
6 by redirecting federal money toward a border wall. President Trump
7 has abused his power by declaring a national emergency where
8 there is no true emergency. New Jersey has joined fifteen other
9 states in filing a lawsuit challenging President Trump’s national
10 emergency declaration to fund a border wall.