JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the first week of October of each year as Manufacturing Week.

WHEREAS, Manufacturing comprises approximately 12 percent of the nation's gross domestic product; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has one of the most educated and skilled workforces in the nation, making New Jersey particularly desirable to manufacturing companies; and

WHEREAS, Four sectors of advanced manufacturing are especially prominent in the State: chemicals, machinery, computer/electronic products, and food, contributing significantly to the State's economy and providing well-paying jobs in a variety of fields; and

WHEREAS, The State supports its manufacturers by providing incentives for manufacturers to grow their businesses, including a tax credit for the acquisition of equipment and for the addition of employees due to equipment investment, the New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program, and the many programs within the New Jersey Economic Development Authority to provide access to capital for manufacturing companies; and

WHEREAS, The State is home to 21 Fortune 500 companies, is home to 13 of the top 20 biopharmaceutical companies in the world, and is ranked first by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for employed biochemists and biophysicists; and

WHEREAS, The State's location in the Northeast provides manufacturers with access to some of the most affluent consumers in the country, as well as the infrastructure for wide-scale distribution of manufacturing products and services; and

WHEREAS, It is altogether fitting and appropriate to recognize the important role the manufacturing industry plays in the State by designating the first week of October of each year as Manufacturing Week; now, therefore,

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

C.36:2-398 Manufacturing Week, designated.

1. The first week of October of each year is designated as Manufacturing Week in the State of New Jersey in recognition of the significance the manufacturing industry plays in the State's economy.

C.36:2-399 Gubernatorial proclamation.

2. The Governor is respectfully requested to issue a proclamation annually and call upon public, officials, private organizations, and all citizens of this State to observe this celebration each year with appropriate events and activities.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved September 30, 2020.