SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION
No. 52

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN
District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Designates May 23 each year as "Renewable Energy Day" in NJ.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating May 23 each year as "Renewable Energy Day" in New Jersey.

WHEREAS, New Jersey is home to a thriving renewable energy sector, which generated almost 1,900 gigawatt hours of energy for the State in 2017, according to the United States Energy Information Administration; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has the potential to generate even more renewable energy as the sector grows; and

WHEREAS, The National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates that New Jersey could generate over 400,000 gigawatt hours of electricity using offshore wind turbines and another 400,000 gigawatt hours of electricity using solar panels; and

WHEREAS, Developing the renewable energy sector is an important step toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions and combating climate change; and

WHEREAS, The renewable energy sector is also an exciting, cutting-edge field for businesses, entrepreneurs, engineers, technicians, and consumers alike; and

WHEREAS, According to the International Energy Agency, renewable sources of energy will have the fastest growth in the electricity sector in the next few years, providing almost 30 percent of global power demand in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Increased demand for renewable energy will require the production of more sophisticated and innovative products and systems, which will create engineering and manufacturing jobs ideally suited to the State's highly educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, On May 23, 2018, Governor Murphy signed into law P.L.2018, c.17; and

WHEREAS, This sweeping legislation made major advances for the renewable energy sector in the State, including establishing the "Community Solar Energy Pilot Program," which allows customers of an electric public utility to participate in a solar energy project that is remotely located from their properties; and

WHEREAS, The bill also established a tax credit for qualified wind energy projects, which will boost the growing wind energy sector, particularly along the southern coast of the State; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper for New Jersey to acknowledge the importance of renewable energy for the future health and prosperity of the State, and to encourage the State to continue to be a leader in this field; now, therefore,

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

1. May 23 of each year is designated as "Renewable Energy Day" in New Jersey.

2. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and the citizens of the State to observe “Renewable Energy Day” with appropriate activities and programs.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill designates May 23 of each year as "Renewable Energy Day" in New Jersey. This date is significant because, on May 23, 2018, Governor Murphy signed into law P.L.2018, c.17, a sweeping piece of legislation that made major advances for the renewable energy sector in the State.