

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 59

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator RICHARD J. CODEY
District 27 (Essex and Morris)

SYNOPSIS

Urges United States Coast Guard to prohibit anchorage in area surrounding Statue of Liberty.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** concerning the protection of the Statue of
2 Liberty by the United States Coast Guard.

3
4 **WHEREAS**, The Statue of Liberty is a singular and extraordinary
5 feature off the coast of New Jersey, representing freedom for all
6 citizens of the United States and welcoming various peoples from
7 around the world; and

8 **WHEREAS**, The statue is a prominent part of a national public park on
9 the island on which it resides, open to anyone wishing to visit and
10 learn about the statue's history; and

11 **WHEREAS**, The public can enjoy spectacular views of the Statue of
12 Liberty from both New Jersey and New York; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Boaters may legally anchor in the harbor surrounding the
14 statue, but most boaters do not linger in the harbor for long periods
15 of time; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Owners of mega-yachts may be using the harbor as
17 something of a parking lot to avoid docking fees for their vessels,
18 and these owners anchor their ships for days at a time in the harbor,
19 blocking the public from viewing the statue; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The wealthiest individuals taking advantage of a public
21 space intended to be enjoyed by people from all walks of life is
22 antithetical to the spirit of the Statue of Liberty; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Liberty Island is situated in a heavily trafficked corridor,
24 and the parking of mega-yachts for long periods of time may
25 increase the navigational risk to other vessels and hinder the Coast
26 Guard and other law enforcement vessels from responding to calls
27 around the harbor in a timely manner; and

28 **WHEREAS**, The long-term anchorage of mega-yachts presents a
29 security threat to the entire harbor, including the statue; and

30 **WHEREAS**, The United States Coast Guard is tasked, amongst other
31 duties, to protect the harbor; and

32 **WHEREAS**, It is entirely appropriate and in the best interests of the
33 citizens of this county for the Coast Guard to prohibit long-term
34 anchorage in the harbor surrounding the Statue of Liberty; now,
35 therefore,

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

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39 1. This House respectfully urges the United States Coast Guard
40 to prohibit long-term anchorage in the harbor surrounding the
41 Statue of Liberty to maintain the public's ability to enjoy views of
42 the monument and park and to protect against security risks.

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44 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
45 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
46 Commandant of the Coast Guard and to the Acting Secretary of the
47 United States Department of Homeland Security.

1 STATEMENT

2

3 This resolution urges the United States Coast Guard to prohibit
4 long-term anchorage in the harbor surrounding the Statue of
5 Liberty. Boaters may legally anchor in the harbor, but most boaters
6 do not linger in the harbor for long periods of time.

7 The Statue of Liberty is a unique and extraordinary feature on
8 the coast of New Jersey, representing freedom for all citizens of the
9 United States and welcoming various peoples from around the
10 world. Allowing individuals to block the public from viewing the
11 statue for extended periods of time is antithetical to the meaning of
12 the statue.