

ASSEMBLY, No. 5538

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 5, 2023

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblyman REGINALD W. ATKINS

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Commission;” appropriates \$2.5 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)

A5538 SPEIGHT, ATKINS

2

1 AN ACT establishing a “Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial
2 Commission,” supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes,
3 and making an appropriation.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. a. There is established in, but not of, the Department of Law
9 and Public Safety a commission to be known as the “Fallen Law
10 Enforcement Officer Memorial Commission.” The purpose of the
11 commission shall be to design and oversee the construction of a
12 Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial in Monmouth County
13 that honors and recognizes law enforcement officers who have lost
14 their lives in the line of duty.

15 b. The commission shall consist of seven members as follows:

16 (1) a representative of the New Jersey State Policemen’s
17 Benevolent Association, appointed by the Governor;

18 (2) a representative of the New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police,
19 appointed by the Governor;

20 (3) a representative of the State Troopers Fraternal Association,
21 appointed by the Governor; and

22 (4) four public members, one of whom shall be a retired law
23 enforcement officer, appointed by the Governor.

24 c. All appointments to the commission shall be made within 90
25 days of the effective date of this act. Any vacancy in the
26 membership of the commission shall be filled in the same manner
27 as the original appointments are made.

28 d. The commission shall organize as soon as practicable after
29 the appointment of a majority of its members and shall select a
30 chairperson from among its members. The chairperson shall
31 appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the commission.
32 A majority of all the authorized members shall constitute a quorum.

33 e. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall provide staff
34 and related support services as the commission requires to carry out
35 its work. The commission may request the assistance and services
36 of the employees of any State, county, or municipal department,
37 board, bureau, commission, or agency as it may require and as may
38 be available to it for its purposes.

39 f. The members of the commission shall serve without
40 compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement for necessary
41 and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their
42 official duties within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise
43 made available to the commission for its purposes.

44 g. The commission shall select a suitable design and location in
45 Monmouth County for the construction of the Fallen Law
46 Enforcement Officer Memorial and shall oversee the construction of
47 the memorial.

1 h. No later than 18 months following the effective date of this
2 act, the commission shall prepare and submit a final report to the
3 Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
4 19.1) to the Legislature, which shall include the final design and
5 location in Monmouth County selected for the memorial.

6 i. There is established in the Department of Law and Public
7 Safety a separate, nonlapsing fund to be known as the “Fallen Law
8 Enforcement Officer Memorial Fund.” The fund shall be
9 administered by the Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial
10 Commission established by this section and dedicated for the costs
11 associated with designing and constructing the Fallen Law
12 Enforcement Officer Memorial pursuant to this section. The fund
13 shall consist of moneys appropriated by section 2
14 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
15 and any other moneys that may become available for its purpose.
16

17 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
18 Department of Law and Public Safety \$2,500,000 for the provision
19 of that amount to the “Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial
20 Fund” for the costs associated with designing and constructing the
21 Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial pursuant to section 1 of
22 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
23

24 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire upon
25 the completion of the Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial.
26

27
28 STATEMENT
29

30 This bill establishes a “Fallen Law Enforcement Officer
31 Memorial Commission” and appropriates \$2.5 million.

32 Under the bill, there is established in, but not of, the Department
33 of Law and Public Safety a commission to be known as the “Fallen
34 Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Commission.” The purpose of
35 the commission is to design and oversee the construction of a Fallen
36 Law Enforcement Officer Memorial in Monmouth County that
37 honors and recognizes law enforcement officers who have lost their
38 lives in the line of duty.

39 The commission is to consist of the following seven members: 1)
40 a representative of the New Jersey State Policemen’s Benevolent
41 Association, appointed by the Governor; 2) a representative of the
42 New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police, appointed by the Governor;
43 3) a representative of the State Troopers Fraternal Association,
44 appointed by the Governor; and 4) four public members, one of
45 whom shall be a retired law enforcement officer, appointed by the
46 Governor.

47 The bill requires the appointments to be made within 90 days of
48 the bill’s effective date. The commission is to organize as soon as

A5538 SPEIGHT, ATKINS

1 practicable after the appointment of the majority of the members. A
2 majority of all of the authorized members constitutes a quorum.

3 Under the bill, the Department of Law and Public Safety is to
4 provide staff and related support services as the commission
5 requires to carry out its work.

6 The bill requires the commission to select a suitable design and
7 location in Monmouth County for the construction of the Fallen
8 Law Enforcement Officer Memorial and to oversee the construction
9 of the memorial. Within 18 months of the bill's effective date, the
10 commission is required to submit a final report to the Governor and
11 the Legislature which is to include the final design and location in
12 Monmouth County selected for the memorial.

13 In addition, the bill establishes, in the Department of Law and
14 Public Safety, a separate, nonlapsing fund to be known as the
15 "Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Fund." The fund is to
16 be administered by the Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial
17 Commission and dedicated for the costs associated with designing
18 and constructing the memorial.

19 Finally, the bill appropriates \$2.5 million from the General Fund
20 to the Department of Law and Public Safety for the provision of
21 that amount to the "Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial
22 Fund."