# ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 171

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 2, 2022

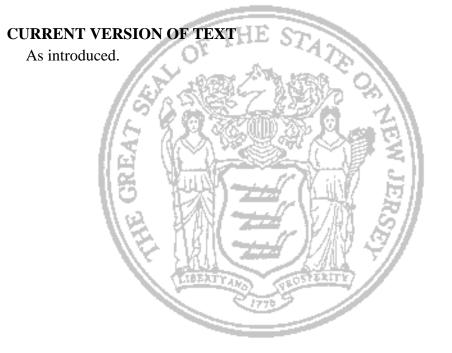
**Sponsored by:** 

Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA District 4 (Camden and Gloucester) Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT District 6 (Burlington and Camden) Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblywoman McKnight

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Permanently designates first full week in April as "Week of the Young Child" in New Jersey.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/9/2022)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** permanently designating the first full week 2 in April as the "Week of the Young Child" in New Jersey.

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- WHEREAS, Learning and development are shaped by the earliest years of a child's life; and
- WHEREAS, The State's future depends on the high-quality early childhood experiences provided to young children today, preparing them for school success and brighter outcomes; and
- WHEREAS, Providing high-quality early childhood education services
   represents a worthy commitment to our children's future by
   preparing them to succeed in school, earn higher wages, and live
   healthier lives; and
- WHEREAS, Providing high-quality early childhood education services also makes working families more economically secure by reducing child-care costs, thereby saving taxpayer dollars that would otherwise go to child care assistance programs dedicated to lowincome families; and
- WHEREAS, Working families need a mixed-delivery early childhood education system where the quality of services is not comprised by economic factors or lack of accessibility when selecting child care arrangements that best meet the needs of their family; and
- WHEREAS, The State's early childhood education workforce needs skilled, qualified, and adequately compensated early childhood educators who reflect a diversity of linguistic, racial, and cultural identities, and provide children and families of this State with developmentally appropriate child care services in educational settings that are both accessible and affordable; and
- WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey needs to provide robust subsidies, scholarships, and tax credits for families at all income levels to help alleviate the true cost of high-quality early childhood education; and
- WHEREAS, The Week of the Young Child (WOYC) is a week-long celebration that focuses public attention on the needs of young children and their families, recognizes the programs and services that meet those needs, and coordinates music, food, and art activities to help develop children's math, literacy, and motor skills; and
- WHEREAS, The National Association for the Education of Young
  Children (NAEYC), in partnership with state and local
  organizations, early childhood professionals, and families and
  children, are celebrating the of the WOYC April 2 through April 8,
  2022; and
- WHEREAS, By calling attention to the need for high-quality early childhood education services for all children and families within the State of New Jersey, the NAEYC and its partners groups hope to improve the quality and availability of such services; and
- WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper to designate the first week in April as the "Week of the Young Child" in the State of New Jersey to

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1	recognize the importance of high-quality early childhood education
2	that is affordable and accessible and advance the child care and
3	early childhood education professions; now, therefore,
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5	BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and General Assembly of the
6	State of New Jersey:
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8	1. The first full week in April shall be permanently designated
9	as the "Week of the Young Child" in the State of New Jersey to
10	recognize the importance of high-quality early childhood education
11	that is affordable and accessible and to advance the child care and
12	early childhood education professions.
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14	2. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a
15	proclamation recognizing the first full week in April as the "Week
16	of the Young Child" in New Jersey and calling upon public
17	officials, the citizens of the State, and other interested groups to

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3. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the Secretary of the Senate to the New Jersey Association for the Education of Young Children.

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4. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

observe the week with appropriate activities and programs.

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#### **STATEMENT**

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This joint resolution permanently designates the first full week of April as the "Week of the Young Child" in New Jersey to recognize the importance of high-quality early childhood education that is affordable and accessible and to advance the child care and early childhood education professions.