ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 174

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 13, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER
District 37 (Bergen)
Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER
District 28 (Essex)
Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT
District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman McKeon and Assemblywoman Murphy

SYNOPSIS

Designates June 23 of each year as "International Widows' Day."



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/20/2022)

AJR174 HAIDER, TUCKER 2

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating June 23 of each year as

2	"International Widows' Day."
3	
4	WHEREAS, According to the United Nations, there are an estimated
5	260 million widows around the world, and nearly one in ten live in
6	extreme poverty; and
7	WHEREAS, In the United States, one million women become widowed
8	each year; and
9	WHEREAS, Seventy percent of all married women will be widowed in
10	their lifetime; and
11	WHEREAS, Many widows are far younger than one may guess, as the
12	median age of a widow is 59, according to the United States Census
13	Bureau; and
14	WHEREAS, Widows are often unsupported by our country's social
15	services, programs, and policies; and
16	WHEREAS, Many widows face challenges even years after the loss of a
17	loved one, including financial and legal difficulties, mental and
18	physical health issues, and the loss of health insurance; and
19	WHEREAS, It is important to draw attention to the experiences and
20	realities of widows, including the need for increased bereavement
21	leave, changes to Social Security regulations regarding widows, and
22	the plight of widows in other countries; and
23	WHEREAS, It is altogether fitting and proper to designate June 23 of
24	each year as "International Widows' Day"; now, therefore,
25	each year as international widows Day, now, therefore,
26	BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and General Assembly of the
27	State of New Jersey:
28	
29	1. June 23 of each year is designated "International Widows'
30	Day" to draw attention to the plight of widows in this nation and
31	abroad.
32	
33	2. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation and call
34	upon public officials, and all citizens of this State, to observe
35	"International Widows' Day" with appropriate programs and
36	activities.
37	
38	3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.
39	·
40	
41	STATEMENT
42	
43	This joint resolution designates June 23 of each year as
44	"International Widows' Day."
45	According to the United Nations, there are an estimated 260
46	million widows around the world, and nearly one in ten live in
47	extreme poverty. In the United States, one million women become
48	widowed each year. Seventy percent of all married women will be

AJR174 HAIDER, TUCKER

7

widowed in their lifetime. Many widows are far younger than one may guess, as the median age of a widow is 59, according to the United States Census Bureau.

Widows are often unsupported by our country's social services, programs, and policies. Many widows face challenges even years after the loss of a loved one, including financial and legal difficulties, mental and physical health issues, and the loss of health insurance. It is important to draw attention to the experiences and realities of widows, including the need for increased bereavement leave, changes to Social Security regulations regarding widows, and the plight of widows in other countries.

11 the plight of widows in other countries.