

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 218

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman BRIAN BERGEN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Declares January 13 of each year as Korean American Day in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



AJR218 BERGEN

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1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** declaring January 13 of each year as Korean
2 American Day in New Jersey.
3
4 **WHEREAS**, On January 13, 1903, 102 courageous Korean immigrants
5 arrived in the United States initiating the first wave of Korean
6 immigration to America; and
7 **WHEREAS**, These pioneering Korean immigrants faced tremendous
8 social and economic obstacles as well as language barriers in
9 America; and
10 **WHEREAS**, First generation Korean immigrants established a new
11 home in a new land through resilience, tenacious effort, and
12 immense sacrifice, which became the bedrock for their children and
13 future generations of Korean Americans; and
14 **WHEREAS**, Korean Americans have made significant contributions to
15 the economic vitality of the United States, and the global
16 marketplace; and
17 **WHEREAS**, The contributions of Korean Americans to the United
18 States include achievements in engineering, architecture, medicine,
19 the arts, and writing; and
20 **WHEREAS**, Korean Americans have made enormous contributions to
21 the military strength of the United States and served with
22 distinction in the Armed Forces during World War I, World War II,
23 the Vietnam conflict, the Korean conflict, and subsequent military
24 conflicts across the globe; and
25 **WHEREAS**, Korean Americans have built and strengthened the alliance
26 between the United States and the Republic of Korea; and
27 **WHEREAS**, The Centennial Committee of Korean Immigration to the
28 United States designated January 13th of each year as “Korean
29 American Day” to honor the first step of the long and prosperous
30 journey of Korean Americans in the United States; and
31 **WHEREAS**, President George W. Bush proclaimed a celebration of the
32 100th anniversary of the first arrival of Korean immigrants in 2003,
33 and, in 2005, the United States House and Senate passed resolutions
34 to encourage observing Korean American Day on January 13th; and
35 **WHEREAS**, More than 168,000 New Jersey residents can claim Korean
36 ancestry; and
37 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey residents of Korean descent have contributed
38 immensely to the development of music, art, food, and enterprise
39 across the State; and
40 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper for this State to
41 commemorate the arrival of the first Korean immigrants to the
42 United States, and to recognize the invaluable contributions Korean
43 Americans have made to this State and to the United States; now,
44 therefore,
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46 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the
47 State of New Jersey:

