

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 111

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## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 220th LEGISLATURE

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INTRODUCED DECEMBER 19, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator RICHARD J. CODEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Senator RENEE C. BURGESS**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Bramnick and Johnson**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates annual Lunar New Year in NJ.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/21/2023)**

1    **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating a certain new moon following  
2       each year’s winter solstice as Lunar New Year in New Jersey.

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4    **WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year marks the beginning of a new lunar  
5       calendar year, which measures time based upon the cycles of the  
6       moon, with festivities lasting for days or weeks; and

7    **WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year has been celebrated for thousands of  
8       years in many countries; and

9    **WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year is traditionally an important time to visit  
10      family, enjoy food together, and welcome good fortune in the new  
11      year; and

12   **WHEREAS**, The lunar calendar as used throughout history by many  
13      nations continues to be widely important to various cultures; and

14   **WHEREAS**, Various Asian countries celebrate Lunar New Year as a  
15      national holiday; and

16   **WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year is celebrated in various forms, including  
17      the fifteen-day Chinese Spring Festival and three-day Korean  
18      Seollal; and

19   **WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year is significant to the Confucian, Daoist,  
20      and Buddhist traditions; and

21   **WHEREAS**, Approximately 10 percent of this State’s residents are of  
22      Asian descent; and

23   **WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year remains culturally and historically  
24      significant to many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders living in  
25      New Jersey; and

26   **WHEREAS**, The New Jersey Department of Education currently  
27      recognizes the day beginning Lunar New Year as a Confucian,  
28      Daoist, and Buddhist holiday on its list of religious holidays  
29      permitting pupil absence from school; and

30   **WHEREAS**, New Jersey takes pride in its population’s diversity of  
31      culture; and

32   **WHEREAS**, This State celebrates the rich traditions and value its  
33      residents contribute to the development of music, art, food and  
34      enterprise in this State; now, therefore,

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

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39        1.   The date corresponding with the second new moon following  
40       each year’s winter solstice, or the third new moon following winter  
41       solstice if an intercalary month intervenes is declared to be Lunar  
42       New Year in New Jersey.

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44        2.   The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a  
45       proclamation recognizing the date corresponding with the new  
46       moon as “Lunar New Year” in New Jersey and calling upon  
47       institutions of learning and culture to observe the day with  
48       appropriate activities and programs.

1       3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6       This joint resolution recognizes the date corresponding with a  
7 certain new moon following each year's winter solstice as Lunar  
8 New Year in New Jersey. Lunar New Year marks the beginning of  
9 a new calendar year as measured by the cycles of the moon. Lunar  
10 New Year varies from year to year as the date corresponding with  
11 the second new moon following each year's winter solstice, or the  
12 third new moon following winter solstice if an intercalary month  
13 intervenes.

14       Lunar New Year has been celebrated for thousands of years in  
15 many countries. The holiday remains a culturally and historically  
16 significant celebration for many Asian Americans and Pacific  
17 Islanders. Lunar New Year is traditionally an important time to  
18 visit family, enjoy food together, and welcome good fortune in the  
19 new year. New Jersey schools currently have the option of  
20 recognizing Lunar New Year as a Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist  
21 holiday.

22       Commemorating Lunar New Year recognizes the importance of  
23 this day for many New Jersey residents and the value of those who  
24 celebrate the occasion to this State.