

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 22

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator NELLIE POU**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE**

**District 34 (Essex and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

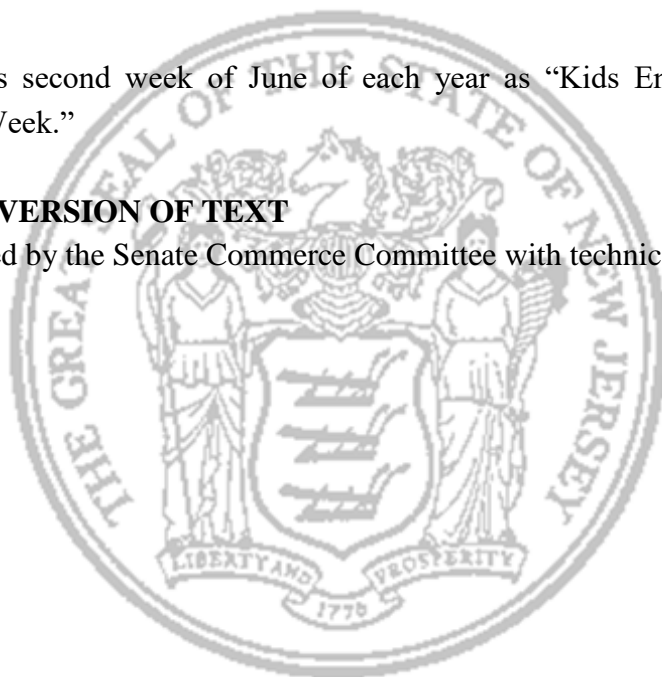
**Assemblyman Atkins, Assemblywomen Carter, Piperno, Eulner, Park,  
Assemblymen Moen and Wimberly**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates second week of June of each year as “Kids Entrepreneurship Awareness Week.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Commerce Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/25/2023)

1    **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the second week of June of each  
2       year as “Kids Entrepreneurship Awareness Week.”  
3  
4    **WHEREAS**, Entrepreneurship is the capacity and willingness to  
5       develop, organize, and manage a business venture, along with any  
6       of its risks, in order to make a profit; and  
7    **WHEREAS**, Through the power of ownership, entrepreneurs are their  
8       own bosses, free to design jobs that are the most fulfilling, flexible,  
9       and meaningful for them; and  
10   **WHEREAS**, Entrepreneurship holds great potential in establishing an  
11       individual’s pathway to wealth and prosperity, particularly for  
12       people in low income communities; and  
13   **WHEREAS**, As small business owners, entrepreneurs also play a  
14       significant role in driving America's economy and building its  
15       workforce; and  
16   **WHEREAS**, According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, the  
17       nation’s 25.8 million small businesses employ more than 50 percent  
18       of the private workforce, generate more than half of the gross  
19       domestic product, and are the principal source of new jobs; and  
20   **WHEREAS**, Despite the many benefits of entrepreneurship, young  
21       people rarely receive any information about business ownership as  
22       a career option or any formal education on how to achieve such a  
23       goal; and  
24   **WHEREAS**, This lack of focus on entrepreneurship education may be  
25       the reason why, according to the Ewing Marion Kauffman  
26       Foundation, New Jersey’s rate of start-up growth dropped from  
27       64.89 percent in 2015 to 51.52 percent in 2016, ranking the State  
28       20<sup>th</sup> among the survey’s 25 evaluated states; and  
29   **WHEREAS**, Many experts believe that the skills of entrepreneurship  
30       must be developed over time through experience and instruction;  
31       therefore, it is vital for New Jersey parents, teachers, and  
32       community leaders to work together to prepare the State’s youth to  
33       be responsible, enterprising individuals, immersing them in real life  
34       learning environments where they can take risks, manage the  
35       results, and learn from the outcomes; and  
36   **WHEREAS**, The lessons of entrepreneurship also include highly  
37       transferable skills sought by all employers, such as time  
38       management, leadership development and interpersonal  
39       competency, so those lessons are meaningful for all children, not  
40       just future entrepreneurs; and  
41   **WHEREAS**, New Jersey legislators and the Governor are uniquely  
42       positioned to lead the effort to educate our State’s youth about  
43       the possibilities of a career in entrepreneurship and the skills  
44       needed to run a thriving business; and  
45   **WHEREAS**, In doing so, the Legislature and the Governor can help  
46       ensure that the future of entrepreneurship in this State is defined by  
47       innovative and confident business leaders who are capable of

1       advancing successful careers that contribute to New Jersey's  
2       economic growth; now, therefore,

3  
4       **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*  
5       *State of New Jersey:*

6  
7       1.   The second week of June of each year shall be designated as  
8       “Kids Entrepreneurship Awareness Week” to promote the benefits  
9       of business ownership to our State's youth and to provide those  
10      children with educational opportunities to learn the lessons of  
11      entrepreneurship.

12  
13      2.   The Governor is requested to annually issue a proclamation  
14      calling upon public officials and citizens of this State to observe  
15      “Kids Entrepreneurship Awareness Week” with appropriate  
16      activities and programs.

17  
18      3.   The Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall  
19      take the appropriate measures each year to publicize “Kids  
20      Entrepreneurship Awareness Week.”

21  
22      4.   This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.