

[First Reprint]

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

## No. 34

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Senator RICHARD J. CODEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Assemblyman HAROLD "HAL" J. WIRTHS**

**District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

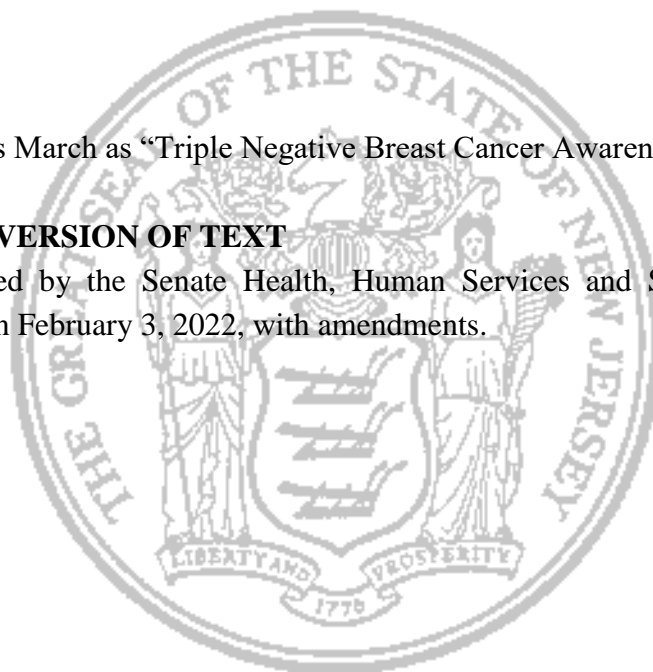
**Senator Pou, Assemblywomen Speight, Swain, Murphy, Assemblyman Tully and Assemblywoman Jasey**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates March as "Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Month."

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee on February 3, 2022, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/24/2022)

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating March as “Triple Negative  
2 Breast Cancer Awareness Month.”  
3  
4 WHEREAS, Breast cancer is among the most commonly diagnosed  
5 cancers and the second deadliest cancer among women in the  
6 United States; and  
7 WHEREAS, Approximately 8,330 women in New Jersey were  
8 diagnosed with breast cancer in 2021; and  
9 WHEREAS, Triple Negative Breast Cancer is a form of breast cancer  
10 that accounts for roughly 15 to 30 percent of all diagnosed invasive  
11 breast cancer cases in the United States; and  
12 WHEREAS, More than 53,700 new breast cancer cases in 2019 in the  
13 United States were Triple Negative Breast Cancer, with higher  
14 prevalence among younger women, Black and Hispanic women,  
15 women with type 2 diabetes, women carrying excess weight in the  
16 abdomen area, and women with certain gene mutations; and  
17 WHEREAS, Due to its aggressive behavior, Triple Negative Breast  
18 Cancer grows quickly and is more likely to return following  
19 successful treatment as compared to other types of breast cancer;  
20 and  
21 WHEREAS, Individuals diagnosed with metastatic Triple Negative  
22 Breast Cancer have less than a 30 percent chance of surviving five  
23 years following diagnosis; and  
24 WHEREAS, Breast cancer patients with an early diagnosis can often be  
25 treated with chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery; however, there  
26 are limited therapies available for Triple Negative Breast Cancer;  
27 and  
28 WHEREAS, Recent innovation in targeted therapies have fueled  
29 advances in the fight against Triple Negative Breast Cancer; and  
30 WHEREAS, According to certain studies, Triple Negative Breast  
31 Cancer mortality rates are often higher if patients have Medicaid or  
32 Medicare or if patients have a lower socio-economic status;  
33 <sup>1</sup> [furthermore, compared with non-Hispanic white women;]<sup>1</sup> and  
34 WHEREAS, <sup>1</sup> [Black] Furthermore, compared with non-Hispanic white  
35 women, black<sup>1</sup> women are 48 percent less likely to receive  
36 guideline adherent care and have an approximate two-fold higher  
37 mortality incidence, which can result in a disproportionately higher  
38 risk of death from Triple Negative Breast Cancer; and  
39 WHEREAS, Advances in breast cancer screening and treatment over  
40 the last several decades have reduced the overall breast cancer  
41 mortality rate, yet the disproportionate impact of Triple Negative  
42 Breast Cancer on racial and ethnic minority communities raises  
43 considerations about the underlying determinants driving the  
44 disparities; and

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SHH committee amendments adopted February 3, 2022.

1   **WHEREAS**, It is necessary to promote Triple Negative Breast  
2       Cancer education, raise awareness about the disease-related  
3       disparities, and tackle health disparities within the health care  
4       delivery 'system' such as inadequate access to screening,  
5       diagnostic testing, and care, to improve early detection and  
6       survival; now, therefore,

7

8       **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*  
9       *State of New Jersey:*

10

11       1. March of each year is designated as “Triple Negative Breast  
12       Cancer Awareness Month.”

13

14       2. The Governor may annually issue a proclamation  
15       recognizing March as “Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness  
16       Month” and call on public officials and the residents of the State of  
17       New Jersey to observe the month with appropriate activities and  
18       programs.

19

20       3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.