

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 173

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER P. DEPHILLIPS

District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

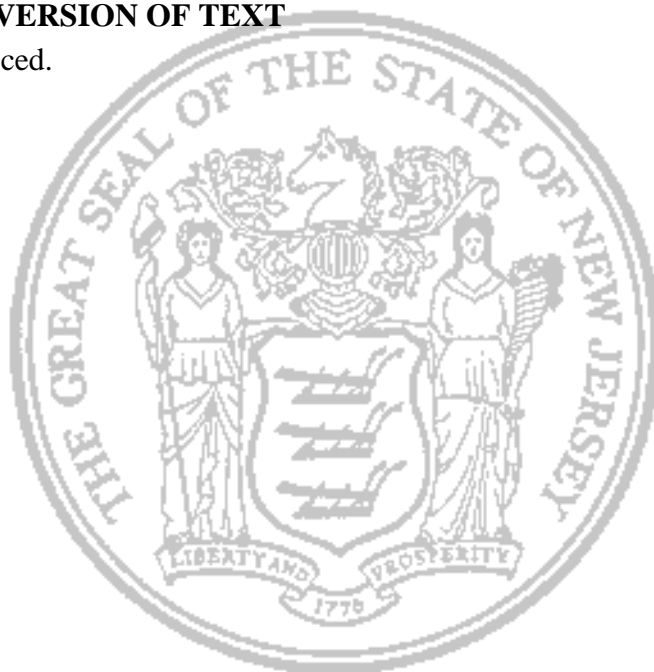
Assemblywoman Fantasia, Assemblymen Barlas, Inganamort, Kanitra, McGuckin, Assemblywomen Donlon, Peterpaul, Assemblyman Moen, Assemblywoman Katz, Assemblyman DeAngelo, Assemblywomen Drulis and Carter

SYNOPSIS

Urges federal government to investigate unidentified drones operating in NJ airspace.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/19/2024)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the federal government to
2 conduct an investigation into the sightings of unidentified drones
3 operating in New Jersey airspace.
4

5 **WHEREAS**, For several weeks countless New Jersey residents, law
6 enforcement officials, and even military personnel have witnessed
7 unidentifiable unmanned aircraft, also known as drones, flying
8 nightly over this State; and

9 **WHEREAS**, As of December 12, 2024, the mysterious drones have been
10 sighted and reported in a large portion of the State, across more than
11 a dozen counties, often flying near critical infrastructure and military
12 installations; and

13 **WHEREAS**, One of the first locations where individuals sighted the
14 unidentifiable drones was near President-elect Trump's residence at
15 Trump National Golf Club in Somerset County, raising alarm among
16 local residents; and

17 **WHEREAS**, The federal government maintains that officials have not
18 been able to corroborate any of the reported visual sightings, that
19 there is no evidence suggesting a national security or public safety
20 threat, and that many of the reported sightings are actually manned
21 aircraft that are being operated lawfully; and

22 **WHEREAS**, The federal government's position is in direct opposition to
23 recent statements made by military officials confirming multiple
24 sightings of drones entering airspace above military installations, and
25 observations of drones in other locations made, and in many cases
26 recorded, by countless local and State officials, including legislators,
27 law enforcement personnel, and residents across this State; and

28 **WHEREAS**, The volume of drone sightings, nature of the areas in which
29 they seem to fly most commonly, and manner in which the flights
30 appear to be spreading across the State is alarming residents and
31 causing fear and unrest, as this mystery continues unabated with no
32 apparent end in sight; and

33 **WHEREAS**, Due to the supremacy of federal authority of the airspace
34 over the State of New Jersey by the Federal Aviation Administration,
35 State and local law enforcement officials and Office of Homeland
36 Security and Preparedness officials are extremely limited in their
37 ability to investigate and respond to this increasingly disturbing
38 phenomenon and to provide an informed response to frightened State
39 residents; and

40 **WHEREAS**, The federal government has an obligation to safeguard the
41 security of the residents of New Jersey against a potential national
42 security threat; and

43 **WHEREAS**, This State calls upon the federal government to ensure a
44 rigorous and ongoing investigation into this matter and to provide
45 relevant and necessary information to State officials in a timely way
46 to protect the security and well-being of the residents of this State;
47 now, therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
2 *Jersey:*

3

4 1. The Legislature of New Jersey respectfully urges the federal
5 government to conduct a rigorous and ongoing investigation into the
6 presence of unidentified drones in New Jersey airspace and to
7 provide relevant and necessary information to State officials.

8

9 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
10 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the
11 Office of the President of the United States, the United States
12 Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the
13 Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the
14 Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of
15 Representatives, and every member of Congress elected from this
16 State.

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STATEMENT

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21 This resolution urges the federal government to ensure that a
22 rigorous and ongoing investigation is conducted into the presence of
23 unidentified drones that have been operating in this State. These
24 mysterious drones have been sighted and reported in a large portion
25 of the State, across more than a dozen counties, flying near critical
26 infrastructure, sensitive military installations, and even President-
27 elect Trump's residence at Trump National Golf Club in Somerset
28 County. The volume of drone sightings, nature of the areas in which
29 they seem to fly most commonly, and manner in which the flights
30 appear to be spreading across the State is alarming residents and
31 causing fear and unrest. The federal government should investigate
32 the appearance of these drones and provide relevant and necessary
33 information to State officials in a timely way to protect the security
34 and well-being of New Jersey residents.