

[First Reprint]

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 45

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

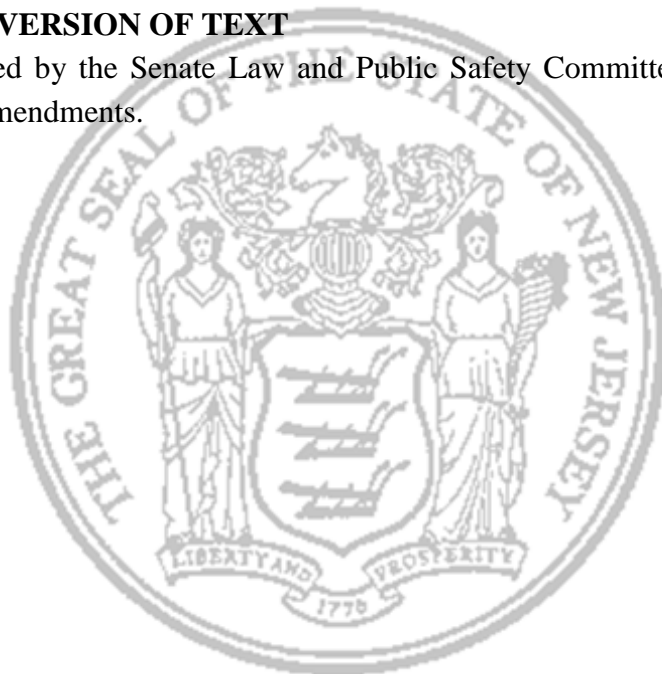
Senators McKeon, Moriarty and Cryan

SYNOPSIS

Designates June of each year as “Gun Violence Awareness Month.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee on June 13, 2024, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2024)

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating June of each year as “Gun
2 Violence Awareness Month.”
3
4 WHEREAS, Firearm violence has become an epidemic in the United
5 States and the effects of gun violence have a devastating effect on
6 society; and
7 WHEREAS, According to data from the Centers for Disease Control
8 and Prevention (CDC), in ¹~~2019~~ 2022¹, there were ¹~~39,707~~
9 48,117¹ firearm-related deaths in the United States; and
10 WHEREAS, That amounted to about ¹~~109~~ 135¹ people dying from a
11 firearm-related injury each day; and
12 WHEREAS, ¹~~Six~~ Six out of every 10 deaths were firearm In 2022, more
13 than half of firearm-related deaths were¹ suicides and more than
14 ¹~~three~~ four¹ out of every 10 deaths were firearm homicides; and
15 WHEREAS, Americans are ¹~~25~~ 26¹ times more likely to be murdered
16 with firearms than people in other developed countries; and
17 WHEREAS, Firearm violence is the leading cause of death for women
18 in instances of domestic violence in the United States each year;
19 and
20 WHEREAS, ¹~~An estimated 1,500 children die annually~~ In 2020, an
21 estimated 2,281 children died¹ as a result of firearms, according to
22 the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence; and
23 WHEREAS, Firearm violence has a detrimental effect on communities
24 within the United States as a result of increased healthcare costs,
25 criminal justice costs, costs to employers of having to obtain and
26 train other employees to cover for workers who are unable to work
27 due to serious firearm-related bodily injury or death, and lost
28 income of workers who are victims of ¹~~firearms~~ firearm¹
29 violence and unable to continue working; and
30 WHEREAS, In fact, according to a 2018 report by the Giffords Law
31 Center to Prevent Gun Violence, these four measurable costs
32 associated with gun violence amount to an estimated ¹~~\$1.2~~ \$1.3¹
33 billion per year in New Jersey alone; and
34 WHEREAS, Communities suffer additional costs such as lost business
35 opportunities, neighborhood flight due to people feeling less safe,
36 and lowered property values; and
37 WHEREAS, Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding
38 citizens goes hand in hand with keeping firearms away from
39 dangerous people; and
40 WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey encourages all citizens to support
41 their local communities’ efforts to prevent the tragic effects of
42 firearm violence and declares the month of June of every year as

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:

¹Senate SLP committee amendments adopted June 13, 2024.

SJR45 [1R] SINGLETON, MCKNIGHT

3

1 “Gun Violence Awareness Month” in this State to honor and
2 remember all victims and survivors of firearm violence; now,
3 therefore,

4

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

7

8 1. The month of June of each year is designated as “Gun
9 Violence Awareness Month” in New Jersey.

10

11 2. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a
12 proclamation and call upon public officials, private organizations,
13 and all citizens of this State to observe “Gun Violence Awareness
14 Month” with appropriate awareness activities and programs.

15

16 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.