

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 199

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 22, 2026

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ANDREW MACURDY

District 21 (Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Designates first Tuesday after first Monday in November annually as Bring Your Adult Child to Vote Day in NJ.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the first Tuesday after the first
2 Monday in November annually as Bring Your Adult Child to
3 Vote Day in New Jersey.
4

5 **WHEREAS**, The United States is facing a crisis of lack of political
6 participation by the young people living in this country and New
7 Jersey is not immune to the effects of this crisis; and
8 **WHEREAS**, Only 54 percent of persons aged 18 to 29 voted in New
9 Jersey in the 2024 presidential election; and
10 **WHEREAS**, This represents a significant decrease from the 67 percent
11 of persons aged 18 to 29 who voted in New Jersey in the 2020
12 presidential election; and
13 **WHEREAS**, Out of all 50 states, New Jersey experienced the most
14 significant drop in young voter participation from 2020 to 2024;
15 and
16 **WHEREAS**, Of persons aged 18 to 29 surveyed about their top reason
17 for not being registered to vote in 2024, only 9 percent said they
18 were ineligible while 91 percent said they forgot, didn't have time
19 or were too busy, missed the registration deadline, had trouble with
20 their voter registration application, did not know how to register to
21 vote, or that voting is not important to them; and
22 **WHEREAS**, Better parental role-modeling, mentoring, and
23 encouragement can increase voter turnout for young adults; and
24 **WHEREAS**, In New Jersey, all middle school students are required to
25 take a course of study in civics which addresses the values and
26 principles underlying the American system of constitutional
27 democracy, the function and limitations of government, and the role
28 of a citizen in a democratic society; and
29 **WHEREAS**, While a civics course can be beneficial in teaching
30 students about why their vote matters, it is just as important for the
31 parents of young adults to show their children firsthand why voting
32 is important and how easy it can be to have a person's voice heard
33 at the voting booth; and
34 **WHEREAS**, Parents can plan a day for themselves and their adult
35 children to vote together if they attend the same polling place, or
36 can even offer to babysit grandchildren so their young adult
37 children can take the time to vote; and
38 **WHEREAS**, If parents are unable to plan a day to vote with their adult
39 children, parents can also begin a thoughtful discussion with their
40 adult children about an upcoming election; and
41 **WHEREAS**, Urging young adults to participate in elections is not about
42 partisan politics, it is about participation in our democracy and
43 making sure the voices of residents across New Jersey are heard, no
44 matter what beliefs and priorities inform them; and
45 **WHEREAS**, Adults in New Jersey need to fulfill their foremost civic
46 obligation by voting, and parents can play a crucial role in
47 encouraging and helping their adult children to fulfill this civic
48 obligation; now, therefore,

1 the same polling place, or can even offer to babysit grandchildren
2 so their young adult children can take the time to vote. If parents
3 are unable to plan a day to vote with their adult children, parents
4 can also begin a thoughtful discussion with their adult children
5 about an upcoming election.

6 Urging young adults to participate in elections is not about
7 partisan politics, it is about participation in our democracy and
8 making sure the voices of residents across New Jersey are heard, no
9 matter what beliefs and priorities inform them. Adults in New
10 Jersey need to fulfill their foremost civic obligation by voting, and
11 parents can play a crucial role in encouraging and helping their
12 adult children to fulfill this civic obligation.