

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 54

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 19, 2008

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ANTHONY R. BUCCO**

**District 25 (Morris)**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

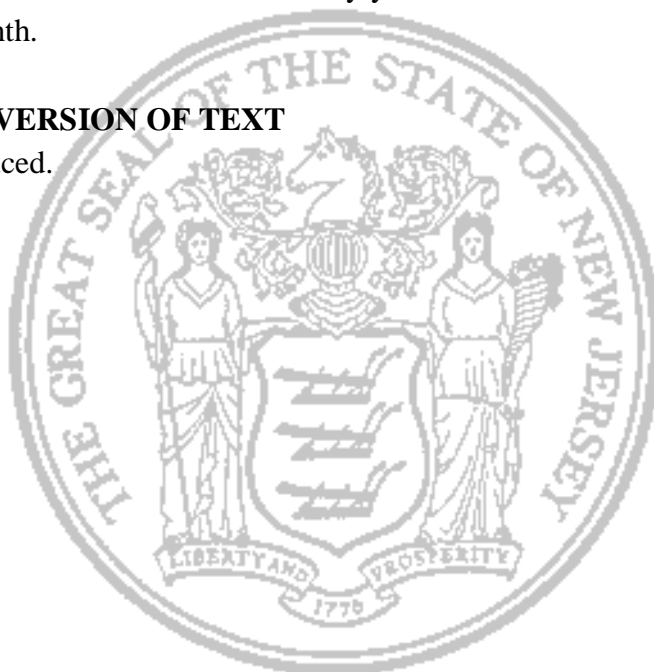
**Senators Van Drew, Baroni, Ruiz, Sarlo, Weinberg, Buono and Pennacchio**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates month of October of every year as Italian-American History and Heritage Month.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/3/2008)**

**SJR54 BUCCO, VITALE**

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1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the month of October of every  
2 year as Italian-American History and Heritage Month and  
3 repealing Joint Resolution No. 3, approved June 20, 1996.

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5 **WHEREAS**, The history of America and the State of New Jersey  
6 have been significantly influenced by the rich heritage of Italy;  
7 and

8 **WHEREAS**, The cultural heritage of Italy includes the classical  
9 civilization of Rome, the fine arts of the Renaissance, the  
10 scientific and artistic genius of Leonardo Da Vinci, the literary  
11 works of Dante and Petrarch, the operas of Verdi and Puccini  
12 and many other contributions that have enriched civilization; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Over 5.4 million Italians emigrated to the United States  
14 between the years 1820 and 1991; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Over 1.5 million New Jerseyans or 18 percent of the  
16 State population are of Italian descent, according to the 2000  
17 U.S. Census; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Italian-Americans have made many contributions to the  
19 history of the United States and New Jersey; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The voyages of the Italian explorer Christopher  
21 Columbus brought together the civilizations of Europe and the  
22 Americas; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Columbus' first contact with the New World in 1492 is  
24 celebrated as a State and federal holiday every year in October;  
25 and

26 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper to designate a month  
27 honoring the significant accomplishments and contributions of  
28 the Italian-American community by designating the month of  
29 October annually as Italian-American History and Heritage  
30 Month; and

31 **WHEREAS**, It is appropriate to encourage American history classes  
32 in this State to highlight the contributions which Italian-  
33 Americans have made throughout American history; now,  
34 therefore,

35

36 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*  
37 *State of New Jersey:*

38

39 1. The month of October of every year is designated as Italian-  
40 American History and Heritage Month.

41

42 2. The Governor and Legislature of the State of New Jersey  
43 encourage American history classes throughout the State to discuss  
44 and examine the contributions which Italian-Americans have made  
45 to the history of this country during Italian-American History and  
46 Heritage Month and the people of this State are encouraged to  
47 observe the month with appropriate activities and programs.

**SJR54 BUCCO, VITALE**

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1       3. Joint Resolution No. 3 of 1996 (C.36:2-39), approved June  
2 20, 1996, is repealed.

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4       4. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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9       This joint resolution designates the month of October of every  
10 year as Italian-American History and Heritage Month. Joint  
11 Resolution No. 3 of 1996, which designated the week ending on  
12 October 12 of every year as Italian-American History and Heritage  
13 Week, is repealed.