

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 129

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 23, 2009

The Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee reports favorably Assembly Joint Resolution No. 129.

This joint resolution designates the first week in March of each year as “Technology Innovation Week” to celebrate innovation and encourage scientific and technological education throughout the State and, in particular, to celebrate the efforts of the young citizens of this State participating in the regional FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology) Competition. The joint resolution requests the Governor to annually issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and the citizens of this State to observe the week with appropriate activities and programs.

The FIRST Program is dedicated to inspiring young people’s interest in science and technology through innovative student robotics programs that match students with local engineers, engineering professors and students, and business people to solve real-world engineering challenges. With the financial and technical support of leading technology-based companies, business organizations, colleges, and universities, the New York City/New Jersey FIRST Program based at the New Jersey Institute of Technology includes 93 FIRST Robotics teams, 240 FIRST LEGO League middle school teams, and other technology teams that participate in competitions, tournaments, and programs throughout the region.