

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 159**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
215th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman CONNIE WAGNER

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

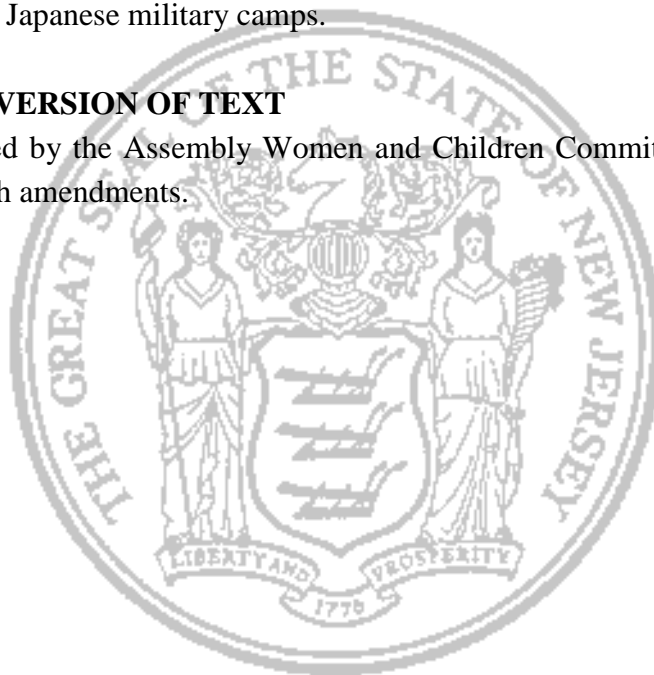
**Assemblywomen Mosquera, Vainieri Huttle, Assemblyman Chivukula,
Senators Weinberg, O'Toole, Allen, Gordon, Addiego, Beck and Gill**

SYNOPSIS

Commemorates suffering endured by comfort women during forced internment in Japanese military camps.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Women and Children Committee on January 17, 2013, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2013)

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** commemorating the suffering
2 endured by comfort women during their forced internment in
3 Japanese military camps.

4
5 **WHEREAS**, The term "comfort women" is a euphemism used by the
6 Japanese government to describe women forced into sexual slavery
7 by the ¹Imperial¹ Japanese ¹**[army]** military¹ between 1932 and
8 1945; and

9 **WHEREAS**, The majority of ¹**["comfort women"]** comfort women¹
10 were of Korean or Chinese descent but women from Thailand,
11 Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Australia, and the
12 Netherlands were also interned in military comfort stations run
13 directly by the ¹Imperial¹ Japanese ¹**[army]** military¹ or by private
14 agents working for the ¹**[army]** military¹; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Some of the women were sold to the comfort stations as
16 minors, others were deceptively recruited by middlemen with the
17 promise of employment and financial security, and still others were
18 forcibly kidnapped and sent to "work" for soldiers stationed
19 throughout the Japanese occupied territories; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Lack of official documentation, most destroyed on the
21 orders of the Japanese government after World War II, has made it
22 difficult to estimate the total number of comfort women; most
23 historians and media sources approximate that about 200,000 young
24 women were recruited or kidnapped by soldiers to serve in Japanese
25 military brothels; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Approximately three-quarters of the comfort women have
27 died as a direct result of the brutality inflicted on them during their
28 internment. Those who survived were left infertile due to sexual
29 violence or sexually transmitted diseases and many are now dying
30 without proper acknowledgment by the Japanese government of the
31 suffering they endured during their forced internment in military
32 comfort stations; and

33 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting for this House to commemorate the fifth
34 anniversary of the passage by the United States House of
35 Representatives of ¹**[H.R.121]** H.Res.121 (110th)¹ that called upon
36 the Japanese government to accept historical responsibility for the
37 sexual enslavement of comfort women by the ¹Imperial¹ Japanese
38 ¹**[army]** military¹ and educate future generations about these
39 crimes; now, therefore,

40
41 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New
42 Jersey (the Senate concurring):

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:

¹Assembly AWC committee amendments adopted January 17, 2013.

1 1. The General Assembly commemorates and supports comfort
2 women in their fight for proper acknowledgement by the Japanese
3 government of the suffering they endured during their forced
4 internment in military comfort stations and calls upon the Japanese
5 government to accept historical responsibility for the sexual
6 enslavement of comfort women by the ¹Imperial¹ Japanese ¹**【army**
7 military¹ and educate future generations about these crimes.
8

9 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the
10 President of the Senate and attested by the Secretary of the Senate
11 and signed by the Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by
12 the Clerk of the General Assembly, shall be transmitted to the
13 Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the United States, ¹The Office
14 of the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea-New York, The
15 Office of Korean American Civic Empowerment, and¹ the Mayor
16 and Council President of Palisades Park, New Jersey¹**【**, and the
17 Korean American Voters' Council¹**】**.