

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 155

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 20, 2016

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ANDREW ZWICKER**

**District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)**

**Assemblywoman ELIZABETH MAHER MUOIO**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Assemblywoman MARIA RODRIGUEZ-GREGG**

**District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)**

**Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblyman REED GUSCIORA**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Assemblyman JOE DANIELSEN**

**District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

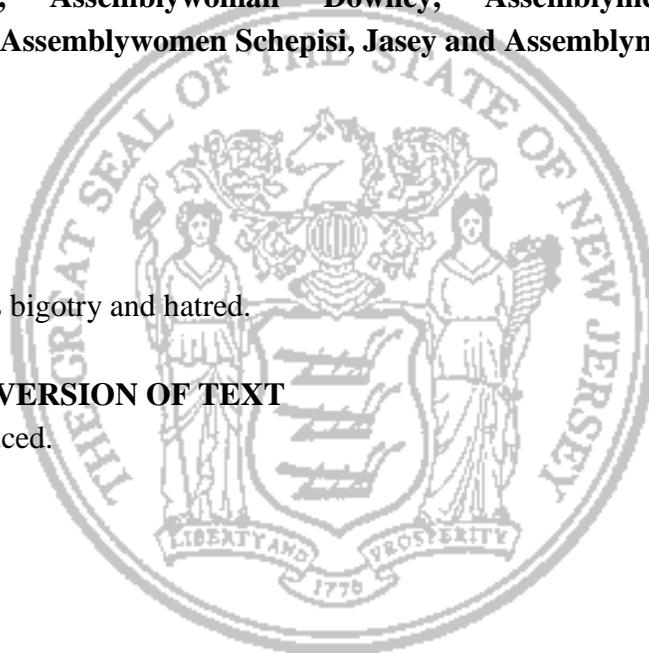
**Assemblymen Coughlin, DeAngelo, Singleton, Eustace, Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblymen Lagana, Barclay, Ciattarelli, Assemblywoman Oliver, Assemblyman Chiaravalloti, Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblyman Mukherji, Assemblywoman Mosquera, Assemblyman Houghtaling, Assemblywoman Downey, Assemblymen Kennedy, Wisniewski, Assemblywomen Schepisi, Jasey and Assemblyman Moriarty**

**SYNOPSIS**

Condemns bigotry and hatred.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2016)

AR155 ZWICKER, MUOIO

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1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** condemning bigotry and hatred.

2

3 **WHEREAS**, Bigotry is commonly defined as the blind intolerance of  
4 one individual towards the beliefs, race, nationality, gender, sexual  
5 orientation, gender identity, or social status of another, and hatred is  
6 defined as the strong dislike or ill-will of one individual toward  
7 another; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Many astute commentators believe that the world,  
9 including this nation, is going through an unsettled era of  
10 particularly intense bigotry and hatred, which is being expressed by  
11 one group of individuals towards another due to their system of  
12 beliefs, the color of their skin, the country of their birth, their  
13 gender, their sexual orientation or gender identity, or their  
14 economic status; and

15 **WHEREAS**, While New Jersey has a rich tradition of diversity,  
16 tolerance, openness, and religious freedom, this State is threatened  
17 by the spreading, insidious twin evils of bigotry and hatred; and

18 **WHEREAS**, This State's motto is "Liberty and Prosperity" and those  
19 words and allegorical figures representing those cherished ideals  
20 are in the center of our State flag, pursuant to State law; and

21 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey is one of the most ethnically and religiously  
22 diverse states in the nation, with foreign-born individuals making  
23 up one in five residents, according to the United States Census  
24 Bureau, and with one in four residents identifying as Black, African  
25 American, Latino, or Asian; and

26 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey has a long tradition of respecting and honoring  
27 the freedom to worship or not worship as we choose, and we  
28 cherish the right to be diverse in our faiths, including Catholic,  
29 Protestant, Jewish, Islamic, and Eastern religious faiths, as well as  
30 other faith based beliefs; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Languages other than English are common in New Jersey,  
32 including Spanish, Indic, Italian, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog,  
33 and many others, and according to the Rutgers' School of Public  
34 Affairs and Administration, almost 30 percent of the State's  
35 population over five years of age speaks a language other than  
36 English; and

37 **WHEREAS**, This rich diversity of belief and ethnic culture has helped  
38 to make New Jersey a stronger, more vital and robust state, one in  
39 which bigotry and hatred are never acceptable, nor part of our  
40 shared value system; and

41 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper for this House to condemn bigotry  
42 and hatred, and all of its nefarious manifestations and consequences  
43 internationally, nationally, and in this State; now, therefore,

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45 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New  
46 Jersey:

**AR155 ZWICKER, MUOIO**

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1       1. This House condemns bigotry and hatred; steadfastly  
2 confirms its dedication to the rights and dignity of all citizens of all  
3 faiths, beliefs, and cultures; denounces in the strongest possible  
4 terms the increase of hate speech, intimidation, violence, vandalism,  
5 arson, and other hate crimes; declares that the civil rights and civil  
6 liberties of all New Jersey citizens should be protected and  
7 preserved; and reaffirms the inalienable right of every citizen to live  
8 without fear and intimidation, and to practice their faith freely.

9  
10       2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,  
11 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the  
12 American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, American Muslims  
13 for Democracy, the Islamic Society of Central New Jersey, the  
14 Council on American-Islamic Relations, the Latin American Legal  
15 Defense and Education Fund, Unidad Latina en Acción New Jersey,  
16 the New Jersey State Conference of the National Association for the  
17 Advancement of Colored People, the New Jersey Anti-Defamation  
18 League, the American Jewish Committee, the New Jersey State  
19 Association of Jewish Federations, the New Jersey Council of  
20 Churches, the Lutheran Episcopal Advocacy Ministry, the General  
21 Baptist Convention of New Jersey, the Reverend Robert Moore, of  
22 the Coalition for Peace Action, the New Jersey Catholic  
23 Conference, and Garden State Equality.

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**STATEMENT**

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28       This Assembly Resolution condemns bigotry and hatred;  
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32 violence, vandalism, arson, and other hate crimes; declares that the  
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36 faith freely.