

P.L.2016, Joint Resolution No. 5, *approved August 31, 2016*
Assembly Joint Resolution No.46

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** establishing the “New Jersey Biotechnology
2 Task Force.”
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4 **WHEREAS**, The biotechnology industry plays a pivotal role in the New
5 Jersey economy, representing thousands of jobs and hundreds of
6 companies in the State and billions of dollars in economic activity
7 and tax revenue each year; and
8 **WHEREAS**, Part of the reason that the industry has played such a key
9 role in the State is due to the activities of the Joint Legislative Task
10 Force on Biotechnology and the Biotechnology Development Task
11 Force created in the early 1990s by the New Jersey Legislature; and
12 **WHEREAS**, These legislative task forces fostered increased
13 communication between the New Jersey Legislature and the
14 biotechnology industry, culminating in initiatives to bolster the
15 industry in the State; and
16 **WHEREAS**, For example, in 1995 the Legislature passed, and the
17 Governor signed into law, the “New Jersey High Technology and
18 Biotechnology Industry Promotion Act,” P.L.1995, c.277 (C.52:9X-
19 9.1 et seq.), which established a program to promote biotechnology
20 and other high technology industries in New Jersey and to attract
21 biotechnology and other high technology companies to the State;
22 and
23 **WHEREAS**, Since the early 1990s, when New Jersey had
24 approximately 50 biotechnology companies located in the State,
25 that number has increased to 379 companies, including many of the
26 largest biotechnology companies in the world locating their
27 operations and headquarters in the State; and
28 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey has been on the forefront in attracting
29 biotechnology businesses to the State and it is in the State’s interest
30 to continue to remain on the forefront of this growing industry in
31 the future; and
32 **WHEREAS**, Due to the pivotal role this industry plays in the State in
33 terms of economic activity, jobs, and tax revenues, it is important
34 that the State government study ways in which to retain and attract
35 new companies in the biotechnology industry into the State and
36 increase communication between State government and the
37 industry; now, therefore,
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39 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
40 *State of New Jersey:*
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42 1. a. There is established the “New Jersey Biotechnology Task
43 Force.”

1 b. The purpose of the task force shall be to communicate with
2 the biotechnology industry and develop recommendations for
3 actions the Legislature and State can take to retain and attract new
4 biotechnology companies to the State.

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6 2. a. The task force shall be comprised of nine members, as
7 follows:

8 (1) Two members appointed by the Senate President who shall
9 be members of the Senate;

10 (2) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate
11 who shall be a member of the Senate;

12 (3) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the General
13 Assembly who shall be members of the General Assembly;

14 (4) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
15 General Assembly who shall be a member of the General Assembly;

16 (5) The Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic
17 Development Authority, who shall serve ex officio; and

18 (6) Two public members, appointed by the Governor, from
19 among a list of nominees provided by BioNJ, Inc.

20 Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in
21 the same manner as the original appointments were made.

22 b. The task force shall organize as soon as may be practicable
23 after the appointment of a majority of its members and shall select a
24 chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members and
25 appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the task force.

26 c. The members shall serve without compensation but shall be
27 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of
28 their duties and within the limits of funds available to the task force.

29 d. The task force may meet and hold hearings at the places it
30 designates during the sessions or recesses of the Legislature.

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32 3. The task force shall issue a final report of its activities,
33 findings, conclusions, and recommendations for legislation or
34 administrative action, to the Governor and the Legislature pursuant to
35 section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1) no later than December 31
36 of the second year next following the effective date of this joint
37 resolution.

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39 4. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately and shall
40 expire upon the issuance of the final report of the task force as
41 provided in section 3 of this joint resolution.

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Creates the “New Jersey Biotechnology Task Force.”