[First Reprint] ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 156

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

Sponsored by: Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI District 31 (Hudson) Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblymen Wirths, Space, Conaway and Assemblywoman Downey

SYNOPSIS

Designates second week of March in each year as "STEM Week."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Science, Innovation and Technology Committee on March 11, 2019, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/26/2019)

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating the second week of March in each year as ¹["S.T.E.M.] "STEM¹ Week." 2 3 WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey recognizes the importance of 4 5 public and private entities in working collaboratively to promote 6 initiatives for effective education of young people in the fields of 7 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics ¹[(S.T.E.M.)] 8 (STEM)¹; and 9 WHEREAS, Many organizations and institutions have adopted the shared mission of informing policymakers, at all levels, of the 10 11 important role that ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM</u>¹ education plays in the innovative competitiveness and robustness of the future economy of 12 the United States; and 13 14 WHEREAS, ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM</u>¹ subjects encompass several 15 foundational skills that aid students in securing well-paying jobs in 16 today's fastest growing science and technological industries, and it 17 is the goal of the State to foster and support students and educators committed to these areas of study; and 18 19 WHEREAS, The State supports the work of public and private organizations to inspire students, especially those of diverse or 20 disadvantaged backgrounds, women, and veterans, to obtain the 21 22 knowledge and skills necessary to enter into and excel within ¹[S.T.E.M.-based] <u>STEM-based</u>¹ careers; and 23 24 WHEREAS, The State recognizes the need to emphasize hands-on 25 learning in atmospheres that encourage inquiries and support the enlistment of ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM</u>¹ professionals who are eager to 26 27 work with students through internships, workshops, and classroom 28 projects; and WHEREAS, The State supports professional development and 29 preparation of educators who are dedicated to putting forward their 30 best efforts in teaching ¹[S.T.E.M.] STEM-¹ targeted curricula, 31 and the work of school districts and nonprofit organizations to 32 33 establish quality education programs that spark the interest of students from all backgrounds and work to build skills and 34 35 resilience within the State's student population; and WHEREAS, Supporting programs that encourage the State's young 36 people to pursue education and careers in ¹[S.T.E.M.] STEM¹ 37 fields is a proactive way to meet the future workforce needs of the 38 State's ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM</u>¹ sectors; and 39 WHEREAS, In New Jersey, the ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM¹</u> sectors are major 40 contributors to the overall health of the State's economy and the 41 42 State's continued success is dependent upon the ability the State's 43 educational institutions and industries to supply employers with a 44 technologically-literate workforce; and

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 <u>thus</u> is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows: ¹Assembly AST committee amendments adopted March 11, 2019.

AJR156 [1R] CHIARAVALLOTI, BENSON

3

1 WHEREAS, Innovation in ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM</u>¹ fields can be a powerful engine of economic growth in the global economy; and 2 WHEREAS, Fostering interest in ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM</u>¹ fields in our 3 future leaders, and continuing to support ¹[S.T.E.M.] <u>STEM-</u>¹ 4 5 based education programs will help develop essential and sustainable human capital in New Jersey; now, therefore, 6 7 8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and General Assembly of the 9 State of New Jersey: 10 1. The second week of March of each year is designated as 11 ¹["S.T.E.M.] <u>"STEM</u>¹ Week" in the State of New Jersey to 12 emphasize the potential of every student from throughout the State 13 14 to develop skills and learn lessons in personal resiliency from 15 educational programming, internships, and work study programs in 16 the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. 17 18 2. The Governor is requested to annually issue a proclamation recognizing the second week of March each year as ¹["S.T.E.M.] 19 "STEM¹ Week" and shall call upon public officials and the citizens 20 of this State to observe ¹["S.T.E.M.] "STEM¹ Week" with 21 appropriate activities and programs. 22 23 24 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.