

P.L. 2019, Joint Resolution No. 6, *approved May 9, 2019*  
Assembly Joint Resolution No. 172

- 1   **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the Thursday of the third week  
2       of September of each year as “Food Waste Prevention Day” in  
3       New Jersey.  
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- 5   **WHEREAS**, Food waste is a widespread epidemic that has substantial  
6       social, financial, and environmental repercussions; and  
7   **WHEREAS**, Federal and state laws aimed at encouraging and  
8       incentivizing food donations from both businesses and individuals  
9       have been implemented to prevent food waste; and  
10   **WHEREAS**, While many prospective business donors are hesitant to  
11       donate excess food due to the threat of liability for food related  
12       injuries or deaths, the federal “Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food  
13       Donation Act” provides robust civil and criminal protections to all  
14       people and businesses who, in good faith, donate wholesome food  
15       to nonprofit organizations for distribution to needy individuals; and  
16   **WHEREAS**, All food donors and nonprofit organizations receiving food  
17       donations are given similar civil and criminal protections against  
18       any liability associated with their food donations under New  
19       Jersey’s “Food Bank Good Samaritan Act”; and  
20   **WHEREAS**, The federal government also offers businesses an enhanced  
21       tax deduction for food donations made to public charities and other  
22       qualifying nonprofit organizations; and  
23   **WHEREAS**, Despite various efforts to curb food waste, according to the  
24       United States Environmental Protection Agency, as much as 40  
25       percent, or 160 billion pounds, of all food produced in the United  
26       States each year is never eaten; and  
27   **WHEREAS**, While Americans dispose of millions of tons of food, the  
28       United States Department of Agriculture indicates that 12.3 percent  
29       of households in 2016 did not have consistent access to enough  
30       food for an active, healthy life; and  
31   **WHEREAS**, Coinciding with a nationwide objective set out by the  
32       United States Department of Agriculture and the Environmental  
33       Protection Agency, the State of New Jersey has established a goal  
34       to reduce the amount of food waste annually generated in the State  
35       by 50 percent by the year 2030; and  
36   **WHEREAS**, Households can reduce food waste in a variety of ways,  
37       including buying no more groceries than are expected to be used for  
38       meals, preparing perishable foods soon after shopping, storing fruits  
39       and vegetables for maximum freshness, and being mindful of old  
40       ingredients and leftovers that need to be used; and  
41   **WHEREAS**, Reducing food waste helps businesses and consumers save  
42       money, lessens methane emissions from landfills, conserves energy  
43       and resources for future generations, and provides support to those  
44       in the community who do not have enough to eat; now, therefore,

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1 and the United States reduce the financial, environmental, and  
2 social impacts of food waste.

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7 Designates Thursday of third week of September of each year as  
8 “Food Waste Prevention Day” in New Jersey.