SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 120

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 28, 2019

Sponsored by:

Senator RONALD L. RICE

District 28 (Essex)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Designates March 22 to March 28 of each year as "Doula Appreciation Week" in NJ.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



	INT RESOLUTION designating March 22 to March 28 of each ar as "Doula Appreciation Week" in New Jersey.
WHE	REAS, Doulas are trained professionals who provide continuous
ph	ysical, emotional, and informational support to mothers before,
du	ring, and shortly after childbirth; and
WHE	REAS, Thousands of doulas are currently practicing in more than
50	countries worldwide, including in all 50 U.S. states; and
WHE	REAS, Leading professional societies such as the American
Co	ollege of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the Society for Maternal-
Fe	tal Medicine, and agencies like the Centers for Disease Control
an	d Prevention, the Health Resources and Services Administration,
an	d the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have
rec	cognized the well-established benefits of doula services; and
	REAS, Research has demonstrated that support from a doula is
	sociated with lower caesarian section rates, fewer obstetric
	erventions, fewer complications during and after childbirth,
	creased use of pain medication, shorter labor hours, and higher
	ores on the APGAR test, which indicates how well the baby is
	ing outside the womb; and
	REAS, Since 2011, World Doula Week has taken place annually
	om March 22 to March 28 to empower doulas all over the world
	improve the physiological, social, emotional, and psychological
	alth of women, newborns, and families in birth and in the
po	stpartum period; and
WHE	REAS, It is altogether fitting and proper, and within the public
	erest, to designate March 22 to March 28 of each year as "Doula
Αŗ	opreciation Week" in New Jersey and to encourage the citizens of
thi	s State to join the observance of this week and appreciation for
the	e doulas who provide support to mothers in this State; now,
the	erefore,
Bi	IT RESOLVED by the Senate and General Assembly of the
State	of New Jersey:
1.	March 22 to March 28 of each year shall be designated
"Dou	la Appreciation Week" in New Jersey.
2.	The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a
procl	amation calling upon public officials and citizens of this State
-	serve "Doula Appreciation Week" with appropriate activities
	rograms.
1	-
3.	This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.
	·
	STATEMENT
Th	is resolution designates March 22 to March 28 of each year as
"D	la Appreciation Week" in New Jersey to coincide with World

SJR120 RICE, T.KEAN

7

- 1 Doula Week. Doulas, who can be found in more than 50 countries
- 2 worldwide and in all 50 U.S. states, are trained professionals who
- 3 provide continuous physical, emotional, and informational support
- 4 to mothers before, during, and shortly after childbirth. Leading
- 5 professional societies have recognized the well-established benefits
- 6 of doula support, which include lower caesarian section rates, fewer
- 7 obstetric interventions, and fewer complications during and after
- 8 childbirth.