## ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 87

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

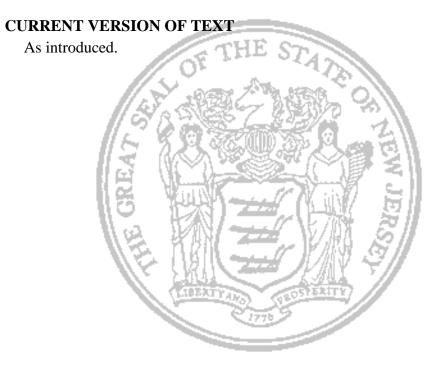
INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by: Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY District 7 (Burlington) Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer) Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK District 18 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by: Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttle and Assemblyman Space

## SYNOPSIS

Designates April 18 of each year as "Worker Safety Day."



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/15/2021)

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1 A JOINT RESOLUTION designating April 18 of each year as 2 "Worker Safety Day" in New Jersey. 3 4 WHEREAS, Workers have a right to a safe environment that is free 5 from danger while at work; and 6 WHEREAS, There are almost 6,400 deaths worldwide each day from an 7 occupational accident or disease, which amounts to approximately 8 2.3 million deaths globally each year due to unsafe working 9 conditions; and 10 WHEREAS, More than 313 million workers globally suffer non-fatal 11 work injuries annually, which amounts to almost 860,000 people 12 suffering injuries every day; and WHEREAS, There were 69 fatal work injuries in New Jersey in 2017 13 and thousands of other non-fatal injuries; and 14 15 WHEREAS, There are negative consequences for both workers and 16 employers when a worker sustains an injury at work; and 17 WHEREAS, Workers who are injured can suffer from loss of life, loss 18 of income, loss of job, stress on relationships, and increased health 19 care costs; and 20 WHEREAS, Employers whose workers sustain injuries face difficulties 21 such as a reduction in productivity, increased workers' 22 compensation insurance costs, decline in worker morale, and 23 decline in product quality; and 24 WHEREAS, A safe and healthy workplace produces benefits for both 25 workers and employers such as better ability to attract and retain 26 quality employees, production of higher quality products and 27 services, and positive community relations; and WHEREAS, It is important to raise public awareness about the 28 29 importance of worker safety so that employers and workers will 30 ensure that the workplace environment is safe and healthy; and 31 WHEREAS, By declaring April 18 of each year as "Worker Safety 32 Day," the State of New Jersey encourages employers, workers, 33 government agencies, and communities to work together to ensure 34 that the workplace is safe and healthy; now, therefore, 35 36 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and General Assembly of the 37 State of New Jersey: 38 39 1. April 18 of each year is designated as "Worker Safety Day" 40 in New Jersey to increase public awareness of the importance of 41 worker safety and to encourage employers, workers, government 42 agencies, and communities to work together to ensure that the workplace is safe and healthy. 43 44 45 2. The Governor is requested to annually issue a proclamation 46 calling upon public officials and the citizens of New Jersey to observe "Worker Safety Day" with appropriate activities and 47 48 programs.

## AJR87 MURPHY, VERRELLI 3

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| 1  | 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.                |
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| 4  | STATEMENT  |
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| 6  | This joint resolution designates April 18 as "Worker Safety Day"       |
| 7  | in New Jersey.   |
| 8  | Workers have a right to a safe environment that is free from           |
| 9  | danger while at work. Currently, there are almost 6,400 deaths         |
| 10 | globally every day as a result of an occupational accident or          |
| 11 | disease, which is almost 2.3 million deaths every year due to unsafe   |
| 12 | working conditions. Additionally, 313 million people worldwide         |
| 13 | suffer from non-fatal occupational injuries every year. In New         |
| 14 | Jersey, there were approximately 101 fatal work injuries in 2016       |
| 15 | and thousands of other non-fatal injuries.                             |
| 16 | Furthermore, there are negative consequences for both workers          |
| 17 | and employers when a worker sustains an injury at work. Workers        |
| 18 | who sustain occupational injuries face consequences such as loss of    |
| 19 | life, loss of income, loss of career, and increased health care costs. |
| 20 | Employers must contend with difficulties such as a reduction in        |
| 21 | productivity, increased workers' compensation insurance costs,         |
| 22 | decline in worker morale, and decline in product quality.              |
| 23 | A safe and healthy workplace provides benefits to both workers         |
| 24 | and employers. It is important to raise public awareness about the     |
| 25 | importance of worker safety so that employers and workers will         |
| 26 | ensure that the workplace is safe. By declaring April 18 to be         |
| 27 | "Worker Safety Day," the State of New Jersey encourages                |
| 28 | employers, workers, government agencies, and communities to            |
| 29 | work together to ensure that the workplace is safe and healthy.        |