

P.L. 1997, CHAPTER 298, *approved January 8, 1998*
Assembly, No. 4

1 **AN ACT** concerning the organization of the General Assembly and a
2 joint session of the 208th Legislature to be held outside of Trenton.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 1 of Title 52 of the
8 Revised Statutes to the contrary, on January 13, 1998 or as soon
9 thereafter as is practicable, the General Assembly may meet and
10 organize for the first annual session of the 208th Legislature at a
11 suitable location on the campus of the College of New Jersey in Ewing
12 Township, Mercer County.

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14 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 1 of Title 52 of the
15 Revised Statutes to the contrary, on January 20, 1998 or as soon
16 thereafter as is practicable, the Senate and General Assembly of the
17 208th Legislature may meet in joint session for the inaugural ceremony
18 of the Governor at a suitable location at the New Jersey Performing
19 Arts Center in Newark, Essex County.

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21 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire at the
22 termination of the inaugural ceremony of the Governor.

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STATEMENT

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27 Under current law, all sessions of the Legislature are required to be
28 held in Trenton, unless they are to be held for ceremonial or
29 commemorative purposes. This bill allows the General Assembly to
30 organize for the first annual session of the 208th Legislature at the
31 College of New Jersey (formerly Trenton State College) in Ewing
32 Township on January 13, 1998. In 1996, the General Assembly
33 organized for its first annual session of the 207th Legislature at
34 Trenton State College.

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36 The bill also provides for the Senate and General Assembly to meet
37 in joint session for the inaugural ceremony of the Governor at the New
Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark on January 20, 1998. The

1 War Memorial in Trenton, traditionally the site of inaugural
2 ceremonies, is currently closed and under extensive renovation.

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7 Allows for organization of the General Assembly and a joint session
8 of the 208th Legislature to be held outside of Trenton.