

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 97

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 30, 1996

By Assemblyman LANCE

1 AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION urging the Secretary of Transportation to grant
2 an exemption from federal requirements to the State of New Jersey in
3 order that the State may have greater control over truck traffic.

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5 WHEREAS, Federal law prohibits States from imposing a vehicle width
6 limitation which would prohibit 102 inch wide trucks, the standard width
7 of trucks, from operating on the federal primary system; and

8 WHEREAS, Several highways which are a part of the federal primary system
9 in this State are essentially local roadways and are not suitable for high
10 volume of truck traffic; and

11 WHEREAS, The high volume of truck traffic on these highways, many of which
12 are two-lane undivided highways, has led to traffic congestion, difficult
13 driving conditions and dangerous situations as several of these highways are
14 also school bus routes; and

15 WHEREAS, Federal law permits a State to apply for an exemption from the
16 federal statutory requirement mandating truck access to these highways;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The Commissioner of Transportation has applied for such an
19 exemption for those highways in this State, including, but not limited to,
20 Routes 31 and 206, which are not suited for high volume truck traffic; and

21 WHEREAS, The granting of the exemption would allow the Commissioner of
22 Transportation to direct truck traffic to those portions of the State highway
23 system which are better suited for high volume truck traffic; and

24 WHEREAS, It is altogether fitting and proper for this House, as the elected
25 representatives of the citizens of this State who have heard the concerns of
26 its citizens with regard to high volume truck traffic on highways unsuited to
27 that traffic, to call upon the Secretary of Transportation of the United
28 States Department of Transportation to grant an exemption to the State in
29 order that the citizens of this State may travel more safely on its highways;
30 now, therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

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3 1. The Secretary of Transportation of the United States Department of
4 Transportation is urged to grant an exemption to the State of New Jersey from
5 the federal statutory requirement mandating truck access to certain highways
6 in the State and thereby provide the Commissioner of Transportation of the
7 State of New Jersey enhanced authority to direct truck traffic to those portions
8 of the State highway system which are better suited for high volume truck
9 traffic.

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11 2. A duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of
12 the General Assembly and attested thereto by the Clerk thereof, shall be
13 transmitted to the Secretary of Transportation of the United States Department
14 of Transportation.

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STATEMENT

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19 This Assembly Resolution urges the Secretary of Transportation of the
20 United States Department of Transportation to grant an exemption to the State
21 of New Jersey from the federal statutory requirement mandating truck access
22 to certain highways in the State. Several highways which are a part of the
23 federal primary system in this State are essentially local roadways and are not
24 suitable for high volume of truck traffic. The high volume of truck traffic on
25 these highways, many of which are two-lane undivided highways, has led to
26 traffic congestion, difficult driving conditions and dangerous situations as
27 several of these highways are also school bus routes. The grant of the
28 exemption would give the Commissioner of Transportation of the State of
29 New Jersey enhanced authority to direct truck traffic to those portions of the
30 State highway system which are better suited for high volume truck traffic.

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36 Urges Secretary of Transportation to grant exemption from federal
37 requirements in order that the State may have greater control over truck
traffic.