

P.L. 1997, Joint Resolution No. 4, *approved July 3, 1997*  
Senate Joint Resolution No. 24

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating that portion of State Highway  
2 Route 440 located in the city of Perth Amboy, Middlesex County,  
3 as the "Edward J. Patten Memorial Highway."  
4  
5 **WHEREAS**, The Honorable Edward J. Patten who passed away on  
6 September 19, 1994, at the age of 89, was a well-beloved person  
7 with a long and productive career of dedicated service in federal,  
8 State and local government; and  
9 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Patten served as mayor of Perth Amboy from 1934 to  
10 1940, the city's youngest-ever mayor, and as Middlesex County  
11 Clerk from 1940 to 1954; and  
12 **WHEREAS**, He served as campaign manager to former Governor  
13 Robert B. Meyner in 1953 and 1957 and was appointed to serve as  
14 New Jersey Secretary of State in 1954 and was reappointed in  
15 1958, serving until 1962; and  
16 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Patten was elected to Congress in 1962, from the 15th  
17 District in Middlesex County and was re-elected eight times,  
18 serving until 1981 during which time he devoted himself to the  
19 service of his constituents; and  
20 **WHEREAS**, During his tenure in Congress, Mr. Patten served on the  
21 House Appropriations Committee and its Subcommittee on Labor,  
22 Health, Education and Welfare and the House Science, Space and  
23 Aeronautics Committee and was instrumental in providing millions  
24 of dollars in federal grants to Middlesex County and its  
25 communities for education, scientific research, hospitals and the  
26 handicapped, and also sponsored several laws which benefit many  
27 Americans, including students, senior citizens and the disabled; and  
28 **WHEREAS**, In 1980, Mr. Patten was bestowed the Rutgers University  
29 Award, its highest honor, for his service and leadership as one of  
30 the greatest supporters of higher education in the United States and  
31 as a strong and consistent advocate of federal support of student  
32 aid programs and university research activities; and  
33 **WHEREAS**, Congressman Patten took a leadership role in a wide range  
34 of civic, fraternal and charitable programs in Perth Amboy,  
35 Middlesex County and this State, including service as president of  
36 the Perth Amboy and Middlesex County Bar Associations, and as

1 director of the State League of Municipalities, and received many  
2 civic, cultural, and other awards; and

3 **WHEREAS**, It is most fitting and proper that the portion of State  
4 Highway Route 440 located in Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, be  
5 designated in memory of the Honorable Edward J. Patten, in  
6 recognition of his life of devoted public service to the people of  
7 Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, this State and this nation; now,  
8 therefore,

9  
10 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
11 *of New Jersey:*

12  
13 1. The Commissioner of Transportation shall designate that portion  
14 of State Highway Route 440 in the city of Perth Amboy, Middlesex  
15 County, as the "Edward J. Patten Memorial Highway."

16  
17 2. The Commissioner of Transportation is authorized to erect  
18 appropriate signs bearing that name.

19  
20 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

21  
22  
23 STATEMENT

24  
25 This joint resolution designates that portion of State Highway  
26 Route 440 in Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, as the "Edward J.  
27 Patten Memorial Highway," in memory of Congressman Edward J.  
28 Patten and his long and productive career of dedicated service in  
29 federal, State and local government.

30  
31  
32 \_\_\_\_\_  
33  
34 Designates portion of State Highway Route 440 located in city of  
35 Perth Amboy as "Edward J. Patten Memorial Highway."