

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 16

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 15, 1996

By Senator BUBBA

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the week ending October 12 of
2 every year as Italian-American History Week.

3
4 **WHEREAS**, The history of America and the State of New Jersey have
5 been significantly influenced by the heritage of Italy including the
6 contributions of Italian culture, architecture, music, literature,
7 painting, sculpture and cuisine; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Over 5.4 million Italians emigrated to the United States
9 between the years 1820 and 1991; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Over 2 million New Jerseyans are of Italian descent,
11 according to the 1990 U.S. Census; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Italian-Americans have made many contributions to the
13 history of the United States and New Jersey; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The voyages of the Italian explorer Christopher Columbus
15 brought together the civilizations of Europe and the Americas; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Columbus' first contact with the New World in 1492 is
17 celebrated as a State and federal holiday every year on October 12;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper to designate a week
20 honoring the significant accomplishments and contributions of the
21 Italian-American community by designating the week ending
22 October 12 annually as Italian-American History Week; and

23 **WHEREAS**, It is appropriate to encourage American history classes in
24 this State to highlight the contributions which Italian-Americans
25 have made throughout American history; now, therefore,

26
27 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
28 *of New Jersey:*

29
30 1. The week ending on October 12 of every year is designated as
31 Italian-American History Week.

32
33 2. The Governor and Legislature of the State of New Jersey
34 encourage American history classes throughout the State to discuss
35 and examine the contributions which Italian-Americans have made to
36 the history of this country during Italian-American History Week.

1 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6 This joint resolution designates the week ending on October 12 of
7 every year as Italian-American History Week, and encourages
8 American history classes throughout the State to discuss and examine
9 the contributions of Italian-Americans to the history of this country.
10 This resolution recognizes Italian-American history as important due
11 to the significant influences which Italian culture, architecture, music,
12 literature, painting, sculpture and cuisine have had on American
13 history. This resolution further recognizes the important role which
14 Americans of Italian descent have played throughout American and
15 New Jersey history.

16

17

18

19

20 Designates the week ending October 12 of every year as Italian-
21 American History Week.