

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 56

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 17, 1997

By Senator DiFRANCESCO

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** creating a commission to select a proposed
2 design for the State coin which will be part of the federal "50 States
3 Commemorative Coin Program."
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5 **WHEREAS**, The "50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act" is
6 currently pending before the United States Congress as H.R. 2414,
7 and provides for the redesign and issuance of quarter dollar coins
8 to commemorate each of the 50 states; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Pursuant to this bill, beginning in January 1999 and for 10
10 years thereafter, five new quarter dollar coins will be issued
11 annually representing five states, selected in the order in which the
12 states ratified the United States Constitution or were admitted into
13 the Union, as the case may be; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The "50 States Commemorative Coin Program" will
15 promote state pride, help educate the youth of the United States
16 about the history and geography of the individual states and raise
17 as much as five billion dollars in federal government revenue; and

18 **WHEREAS**, It is appropriate to establish a mechanism by which to
19 select a design for New Jersey's coin and present that proposal to
20 the Governor and Legislature for transmittal to the Secretary of the
21 United States Treasury for approval as New Jersey's coin; and

22 **WHEREAS**, It is therefore, fitting and proper, and within the public
23 interest, to create a special commission to select a proposed design
24 for the coin which will be issued to honor New Jersey as part of the
25 federal "50 States Commemorative Coin Program;" now, therefore
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27 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
28 *of New Jersey:*
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30 1. There is hereby created a commission to be known as the "New
31 Jersey Commemorative Coin Design Commission." The commission
32 shall consist of fifteen members to be appointed from the general
33 public, as follows: five each by the Governor, the President of the
34 Senate, and the Speaker of the General Assembly. The members shall
35 be residents of the State and have backgrounds in history, art and
36 numismatics. The members of the commission shall serve without
37 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred

1 in the performance of their duties. Any vacancy in the membership of
2 the commission shall be filled by appointment in the same manner as
3 the original appointment was made.

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5 2. The commission shall organize as soon as may be practicable
6 after the appointment of its members and shall select a chair from
7 among its members and a secretary, who need not be a member of the
8 commission.

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10 3. It shall be the duty of the commission to select and submit a
11 proposed design of the New Jersey quarter dollar coin to the Governor
12 and Legislature for transmittal to the Secretary of the United States
13 Treasury.

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15 4. The commission is entitled to the assistance and services of the
16 employees of the Office of Legislative Services and any State, county
17 or municipal department, board, bureau, commission or agency as it
18 may require and as may be available to it for its purposes, and to
19 employ stenographic and clerical assistants and incur traveling and
20 other miscellaneous expenses necessary to perform its duties, within
21 the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to it for
22 its purposes.

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24 5. The commission shall select a proposed design within 120 days
25 of its first meeting and submit the proposed design to the Governor
26 and Legislature for transmittal to the Secretary of the United States
27 Treasury.

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29 6. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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32 STATEMENT

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34 This joint resolution establishes the "New Jersey Commemorative
35 Coin Design Commission." The purpose of the commission is to select
36 a proposed design for the coin which will be issued to honor New
37 Jersey as part of the federal "50 States Commemorative Coin
38 Program."

39 The "50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act" is currently
40 pending before the United States Congress as H.R. 2414. Pursuant to
41 the bill, beginning in January 1999 and for the next 10 years, five new
42 quarter dollar coins will be issued annually, each coin representing a
43 different United States state. The coins will be issued in the order in
44 which the states ratified the United States Constitution or were
45 admitted into the Union. This program will help educate the youth of
46 the United States about the history and geography of the individual

1 states and produce as much as five billion dollars in revenue for the
2 federal government.

3 The commission will consist of 15 members of the general public,
4 five each appointed by the Governor, the President of the Senate, and
5 the Speaker of the General Assembly. The members of the
6 commission shall have backgrounds in history, art and numismatics,
7 The commission shall report its proposed design to the Governor and
8 Legislature for transmittal to the Secretary of the United States
9 Treasury within 120 days of its first meeting.

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14 Creates commission to select proposed design for State coin which
15 will be part of federal "50 States Commemorative Coin Program."