

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 208

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

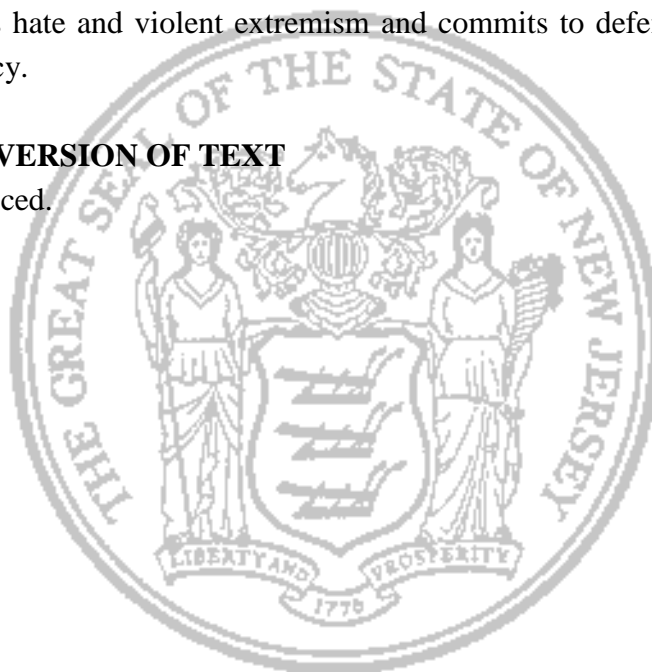
**Assemblymen Mukherji, Holley, Verrelli, Assemblywoman Quijano,
Assemblymen Conaway, Moen, Assemblywomen Chaparro, Reynolds-
Jackson, Jasey, Timberlake, Downey, Swain and Assemblyman Tully**

SYNOPSIS

Condemns hate and violent extremism and commits to defense of safe and just democracy.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/3/2021)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** condemning hate and violent extremism and
2 committing to defending the integrity of a safe and just
3 democratic society.

4
5 **WHEREAS**, On January 6, 2021, a violent attack took place in the
6 nation's capitol when a mob of riotous extremists attempted to
7 overtake the United States Capitol Building and invalidate the
8 results of a fair and free election; and

9 **WHEREAS**, This act of domestic terrorism was an assault on our
10 democracy and has brought to light the grave danger created when
11 we ignore the hateful, divisive actions of those who seek to garner
12 power based on fear, bigotry and falsehoods; and

13 **WHEREAS**, The central and overriding tenet of living in a fair and
14 secure democratic society is the idea that all people are deemed
15 equal under the law and that no one is above that law; and

16 **WHEREAS**, The State of New Jersey is committed to defending these
17 democratic ideals by promoting inclusiveness and celebrating
18 diversity, working to ensure equitable opportunities for all, and
19 rejecting hate and bias in any form; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is a world renowned
21 anti-hate organization dedicated to fighting threats to democracy;
22 securing justice and fair treatment for all; and creating a world
23 which is free from discrimination, bias and hate; and

24 **WHEREAS**, The ADL issued a report finding a strong link between
25 right-wing extremists, white-supremacists and extremist-related
26 murders and violence, and further noted that disinformation,
27 misinformation and online conspiracy theories are spreading and
28 inspiring real world violence and otherwise threatening our
29 democracy; and

30 **WHEREAS**, The State of New Jersey condemns these acts of violence
31 and any actions based on hate or extremism as these actions are
32 antithetical to our democracy and the safety and well-being of the
33 people of this State; and

34 **WHEREAS**, The elected leaders of this State are committed to
35 defending the democratic process and all the people and
36 mechanisms necessary to ensure its integrity; now, therefore,

37
38 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
39 *State of New Jersey:*

40
41 1. The Governor and Legislature of the State of New Jersey
42 condemn hate and violent extremism and express support for
43 democracy.

44
45 2. Copies of this resolution as filed by the Secretary of State
46 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
47 Secretary of the Senate to the Majority and Minority Leaders of the

1 United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the
2 United States House of Representatives, and every member of the
3 United States Congress elected from the State of New Jersey.

4

5 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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10 This joint resolution condemns hate and violent extremism as
11 antithetical to the tenets of a safe and just democratic society. The
12 resolution further denounces the violent attack that occurred in the
13 nation's capitol on January 6, 2021, as that attack is evidence of the
14 violence that can result when extremists utilize hate, fear, bias,
15 misinformation, and conspiracy theories to create an atmosphere
16 that is hostile to democratic principles and processes.

17 This joint resolution also reaffirms New Jersey's continued
18 commitment to the defense of a robust democratic society. One in
19 which its people are considered equals under the law, and which
20 celebrates the diverse cultures and backgrounds of its citizens. This
21 joint resolution expresses New Jersey's desire to cultivate an
22 environment of inclusion for its people, where hate and violence by
23 extremists will not be tolerated.