

[First Reprint]

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 81

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN**

**District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE**

**District 34 (Essex and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

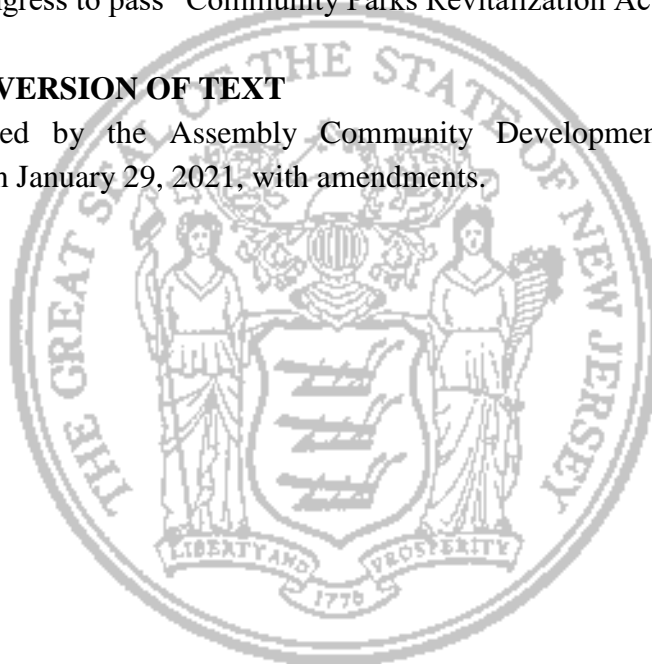
**Assemblyman Calabrese, Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblyman McKeon, Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttie, Assemblyman Houghtaling and Assemblywoman Jimenez**

**SYNOPSIS**

Urges Congress to pass “Community Parks Revitalization Act.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Community Development and Affairs Committee on January 29, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/1/2021)

1    **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** respectfully urging Congress to pass  
2       the federal “Community Parks Revitalization Act.”

3  
4    **WHEREAS**, The federal “Community Parks Revitalization Act,”  
5       most recently introduced in the United States House of  
6       Representatives as <sup>1</sup>**[H.R. 343] H.R. 159<sup>1</sup> on <sup>1</sup>**[January 5, 2017]**  
7       January 4, 2021<sup>1</sup>, would require the Secretary of Housing and  
8       Urban Development (HUD) to carry out a community  
9       revitalization program consisting of federal grants to eligible  
10      local governments; and**

11   **WHEREAS**, Any applicant for a grant under the “Community Parks  
12      Revitalization Act” would be required to submit to the HUD  
13      Secretary evidence of its commitment to ongoing planning,  
14      rehabilitation, service, operation, and maintenance programs for  
15      its park and recreation systems; and

16   **WHEREAS**, The legislation includes a safeguard provision to  
17      prevent the misuse of funds by prohibiting conversion, without  
18      HUD approval, of any property improved or developed with  
19      assistance provided pursuant to the “Community Parks  
20      Revitalization Act,” for uses other than for public recreation; and

21   **WHEREAS**, The legislation provides the HUD Secretary with  
22      discretion to award such grants to certain communities which are  
23      in need but do not technically meet the criteria to be awarded a  
24      grant under the proposed program; and

25   **WHEREAS**, Public parks and recreation areas are vital to the  
26      development and maintenance of municipalities throughout the  
27      State, though State funding is limited with respect to creating  
28      and maintaining public recreational areas; and

29   **WHEREAS**, Congress is urged to enact the “Community Parks  
30      Revitalization Act,” or substantially similar legislation, in order  
31      to provide federal grant opportunities to New Jersey  
32      communities that are in need of new or updated public recreation  
33      areas; now, therefore,

34  
35        **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
36      *Jersey:*

37  
38        1. The General Assembly respectfully urges Congress to pass  
39        the “Community Parks Revitalization Act,” most recently  
40        introduced in the United States House of Representatives as  
41        <sup>1</sup>**[H.R. 343] H.R.159<sup>1</sup>, or substantially similar legislation, in order  
42        to provide federal grant opportunities to New Jersey communities  
43        that are in need of new or updated public recreation areas.**

44  
45        2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly ACD committee amendments adopted January 29, 2021.

**AR81 [1R] WIMBERLY, SPEARMAN**

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- 1 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to all
- 2 members of the New Jersey congressional delegation and the
- 3 Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.