

P.L. 2021, Joint Resolution No. 1, *approved March 9, 2021*  
Senate Joint Resolution No. 82

- 1   **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating March 9 of each year as  
2   “COVID-19 Heroes Day” in New Jersey.  
3
- 4   **WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that has caused a global  
5   pandemic, leading to an unprecedented and overwhelming public  
6   health crisis throughout the United States; and  
7   **WHEREAS**, New Jersey has the second highest incidence of COVID-  
8   19 in the United States, leading to the State’s healthcare system and  
9   economy becoming overwhelmed; and  
10   **WHEREAS**, In response to the devastating effects COVID-19 has had  
11   throughout New Jersey, the Governor issued a declaration of a State  
12   of Emergency on March 9, 2020; and  
13   **WHEREAS**, In an effort to combat COVID-19 and to provide necessary  
14   services during the State of Emergency, essential workers have  
15   been called upon to keep the State’s citizens safe and healthy; and  
16   **WHEREAS**, Essential workers provide services which involve  
17   interactions with the public and are essential to the public's health,  
18   safety, and welfare during a State of Emergency, and includes  
19   healthcare workers, first responders, pharmacy workers, postal  
20   workers, childcare workers, food service workers, transportation  
21   workers, warehouse workers, and all frontline workers; and  
22   **WHEREAS**, Essential workers are willing to put their own health at risk  
23   to continue to meet their existing responsibilities to maintain safety  
24   and public health while overcoming staggering new challenges  
25   posed by COVID-19; and  
26   **WHEREAS**, These workers have risen to the task and carried out  
27   critical missions designed to protect the health and safety of New  
28   Jersey communities, and to minimize the disruption that COVID-19  
29   has caused to daily life; and  
30   **WHEREAS**, A designated day to commemorate essential workers  
31   who continued to work during the COVID-19 pandemic is  
32   necessary to help bring awareness to these heroes, and to  
33   demonstrate support for those individuals that every day risked  
34   their safety for the health and well-being of this State; now,  
35   therefore,  
36
- 37    **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*  
38    *State of New Jersey:*  
39
- 40       1. March 9 of each year shall be designated as “COVID-19  
41   Heroes Day” in New Jersey to honor essential workers.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

Essential workers provide necessary services which are essential to the public's health, safety, and welfare during a State of Emergency, and includes from healthcare workers, first responders, pharmacy workers, postal workers, childcare workers, food service workers, transportation workers, warehouse workers, and all frontline workers. Essential workers have proven that they are willing to put their own health at risk to continue to meet their responsibilities to maintain safety and public health while overcoming the staggering and varied new challenges posed by COVID-19. Essential workers have risen to this task and have carried out critical missions to protect the health and safety of the citizens of the State, minimizing the disruption that COVID-19 has caused to daily life. A designated day to commemorate essential workers who continued to work during the COVID-19 pandemic is necessary to help bring awareness to these heroes and to demonstrate support for those individuals that every day risked their safety for the health and well-being of this State.

Designates March 9 of each year “COVID-19 Heroes Day” in New Jersey.