

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 45

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Diegnan

SYNOPSIS

Designates September 23 of each year as “Bruce Springsteen Day.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/22/2021)

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1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating September 23 of each year as
2 “Bruce Springsteen Day.”
3
4 **WHEREAS**, Bruce Frederick Joseph Springsteen was born in Long
5 Branch, New Jersey on September 23, 1949 and was raised in
6 Freehold, New Jersey by his working class family; and
7 **WHEREAS**, Bruce Springsteen’s love of rock and roll music began by
8 watching Elvis Presley on “The Ed Sullivan Show” in 1956 and
9 was reaffirmed by The Beatles’ appearance on the same program in
10 1964; and
11 **WHEREAS**, In the late sixties and early seventies, Bruce Springsteen
12 honed his skills as a songwriter and performer by touring with
13 bands based in New Jersey, including the Castiles and Steel Mill,
14 and met several future members of the E Street Band through his
15 associations with these groups; and
16 **WHEREAS**, Bruce Springsteen’s numerous appearances at venues such
17 as the Stone Pony and the Upstage Club helped establish Asbury
18 Park, New Jersey as a hub for musicians; and
19 **WHEREAS**, In 1972, Bruce Springsteen was signed to a record deal
20 with Columbia Records and released the critically-acclaimed
21 “Greetings from Asbury Park,” which generated comparisons of
22 Springsteen to Bob Dylan; and
23 **WHEREAS**, The nickname “The Boss” was attached to Bruce
24 Springsteen during this time, as he collected the money from
25 performances to pay to band members, and has stuck with him ever
26 since; and
27 **WHEREAS**, Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band’s third album, the
28 career-defining “Born to Run,” was released in 1975 and retains
29 such a stature that Rolling Stone magazine considers it today to be
30 the 18th greatest album of all time and the title track the 21st
31 greatest song of all time; and
32 **WHEREAS**, After “Born to Run,” albums such as “The River” and
33 “Born in the U.S.A.” solidified Bruce Springsteen, along with the E
34 Street Band, as a phenomenon, leading to global sold-out tours and
35 making Bruce Springsteen and the band legends, in part, due to live
36 performances in excess of three hours; and
37 **WHEREAS**, In the late eighties and into the nineties, Bruce Springsteen
38 released solo albums, won an Academy Award for the song
39 “Streets of Philadelphia” from the film “Philadelphia,” and was
40 inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; and
41 **WHEREAS**, The attacks of September 11, 2001, inspired Bruce
42 Springsteen to put together the seminal album “The Rising,” which
43 spoke to the grief and loss of New Jersey residents and Americans
44 in general; and
45 **WHEREAS**, Bruce Springsteen has sold more than 120 million albums
46 worldwide and won 20 Grammys; and

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1 **WHEREAS**, Because of Bruce Springsteen’s contributions as a
2 musician and citizen of New Jersey, he was a member of the
3 inaugural class of inductees into the New Jersey Hall of Fame in
4 2008; and

5 **WHEREAS**, In 2017, Bruce Springsteen broke ground by becoming the
6 first rock and roll musician to have a residency on Broadway,
7 which earned Springsteen a special Tony Award in 2018; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Bruce Springsteen performs at numerous charitable
9 concerts, contributes millions of dollars to philanthropic causes, and
10 encourages his audiences to give back, including asking fans to
11 bring canned goods to concerts so the items can be donated to local
12 food banks; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Bruce Springsteen, along with his wife, New Jersey native
14 and E Street Band member Patti Scialfa, still call New Jersey home;
15 now, therefore,

16

17 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
18 *State of New Jersey:*

19

20 1. September 23 of each year shall be designated as “Bruce
21 Springsteen Day” in the State of New Jersey in recognition of the
22 many accomplishments of Bruce Springsteen and his contributions
23 to this State.

24

25 2. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a
26 proclamation calling upon public officials and citizens of this State
27 to observe “Bruce Springsteen Day” with appropriate activities and
28 programs.

29

30 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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35 This joint resolution designates September 23 of each year as
36 “Bruce Springsteen Day.”

37 Bruce Springsteen was born in Long Branch, New Jersey on
38 September 23, 1949 and raised in Freehold, New Jersey by his
39 working class family. He watched performances by Elvis Presley in
40 1956 and the Beatles in 1964 on “The Ed Sullivan Show,” which
41 sparked his interest in rock and roll music. During the late sixties
42 and early seventies, Bruce Springsteen honed his skills as a
43 songwriter and performer by touring with New Jersey-based bands
44 such as the Castiles and Steel Mill, and met future members of the
45 E Street Band. During this time, Bruce Springsteen’s numerous
46 appearances at venues such as the Stone Pony and the Upstage Club
47 helped establish Asbury Park, New Jersey as a hub for musicians.

1 In 1972, Bruce Springsteen was signed to Columbia Records and
2 released his first album, "Greetings from Asbury Park." It was
3 critically-acclaimed and sparked comparisons to Bob Dylan. The
4 nickname "The Boss" was attached to Bruce Springsteen during this
5 time, as he collected the money from performances to pay to band
6 members, and has stuck with him ever since. A career-defining third
7 album, the seminal "Born to Run," was released in 1975. It retains
8 such a stature that Rolling Stone magazine declared it the 18th
9 greatest album of all time and the title track the 21st greatest song of
10 all time.

11 Albums released after "Born to Run," such as "The River" and
12 "Born in the U.S.A.," solidified Bruce Springsteen, along with the E
13 Street Band, as a phenomenon. These albums led to global sold-out
14 tours and made Bruce Springsteen and the band legends, in part,
15 due to performances in excess of three hours. In the late eighties
16 and into the nineties, Bruce Springsteen released solo albums, won
17 an Academy Award for the song "Streets of Philadelphia" from the
18 film "Philadelphia," and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall
19 of Fame.

20 The attacks of September 11, 2001, inspired Bruce Springsteen
21 to put together the seminal album "The Rising," which spoke to the
22 grief and loss of New Jersey residents and Americans in general. In
23 total, Bruce Springsteen has gone on to sell 120 million albums
24 worldwide and has won 20 Grammys. Because of his contributions
25 as a musician and citizen of New Jersey, Bruce Springsteen was a
26 member of the inaugural class of inductees into the New Jersey Hall
27 of Fame in 2008. In 2017, Bruce Springsteen broke ground by
28 becoming the first rock and roll musician to have a residency on
29 Broadway, which earned Springsteen a special Tony Award in
30 2018.

31 Bruce Springsteen performs at numerous charitable concerts,
32 contributes millions of dollars to philanthropic causes, and
33 encourages his audiences to give back. This includes asking fans to
34 bring canned goods to concerts so the items can be donated to local
35 food banks. Bruce Springsteen and his wife, New Jersey native and
36 E Street Band member Patti Scialfa, still call New Jersey home.