

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

- “N.J. pays tribute to first black men to serve as legislators,” Asbury Park Press, 4-5-07, p.A3
- “Long-delayed honors enacted for first two black legislators,” The Star-Ledger, 4-5-07, p.19
- “State honors two minority legislators,” The Times, 4-5-07, p.A7
- “Two pioneering black legislators recognized,” Courier-Post, 4-5-07, p.15B
- “N.J. honors first black assemblyman, senator,” The Philadelphia Inquirer, 4-5-07, p.B7
- “State honors trailblazing black lawmakers,” Burlington County Times, 4-5-07, p.A6
- “State honors black lawmakers,” Courier News, 4-5-07, p.A3

LAW

P.L. 2007, CHAPTER 64, *approved April 4, 2007*
Senate Committee Substitute for
Senate Nos. 2482 and 877

1 **AN ACT** providing for plaques to honor New Jersey's first African-
2 American Senator, Hutchins F. Inge, and New Jersey's first
3 African-American Assemblyman, Walter Gilbert Alexander, and
4 making an appropriation.
5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
7 of New Jersey:
8

9 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

10 a. In 1966, Dr. Hutchins F. Inge of Newark became the first
11 African-American to serve in the New Jersey State Senate and in
12 1921, Dr. Walter Gilbert Alexander of Orange became the first
13 African-American to serve in the New Jersey General Assembly;

14 b. At the time Senator Inge took office, he had already
15 established himself as a distinguished citizen of our State, having
16 graduated from both the University of Minnesota College of
17 Pharmacy and Howard University School of Medicine and serving
18 on the staff of Presbyterian Hospital;

19 c. Senator Inge had also served his community with distinction,
20 as a director of the Essex Urban League and the New Jersey
21 Association for Retarded Children, and as a staff physician for the
22 Newark Board of Health's Division of Child Hygiene;

23 d. During Senator Inge's tenure in the Senate, he served as the
24 chairman of the Senate Federal and Interstate Relations Committee,
25 and was a supporter of measures to aid education, transportation,
26 and housing;

27 e. Walter Gilbert Alexander was born in Lynchburg, Virginia on
28 December 3, 1880, and was the son of former slaves;

29 f. At the age of fourteen, he entered Lincoln University as the
30 youngest student in his class and the youngest student that had ever
31 matriculated at that university;

32 g. Walter Gilbert Alexander graduated from Lincoln University
33 magna cum laude in 1899, having won the Bradley Medal in natural
34 science and being honored as the Latin Salutatorian of his class;

35 h. After graduation, he entered the Boston College of Physicians
36 and Surgeons, and graduated in June 1903 after winning first prize
37 for his thesis;

38 i. A distinguished physician, he served as General Secretary and
39 later President of the National Medical Association;

40 j. During Assemblyman Alexander's tenure in the Assembly, he
41 served on committees concerning epileptics and public health, and

1 sponsored legislation addressing civil rights and health care;

2 k. In March 1921, Assemblyman Alexander was honored by his
3 fellow lawmakers who asked him to preside over the Assembly for
4 thirty minutes, while a laudatory resolution commending him on his
5 legislative service was read;

6 l. It is fitting and proper that this State honor Senator Hutchins
7 F. Inge and Assemblyman Walter Gilbert Alexander by placing
8 plaques in the State House to commemorate their tenure as
9 members of the New Jersey Legislature.

10

11 2. Plaques to honor Senator Hutchins F. Inge, New Jersey's first
12 African-American State Senator, and Assemblyman Walter Gilbert
13 Alexander, New Jersey's first African-American Assemblyman,
14 shall be displayed in the State House at Trenton.

15

16 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary
17 of State such amounts as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose
18 of section 2 of this act, subject to approval by the Director of the
19 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
20 Treasury.

21

22 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

23

24

25

26

27 _____
28 Provides for plaques in State House to honor Hutchins F. Inge
29 and Walter Gilbert Alexander, first African-American Senator and
Assemblyman.

SENATE, No. 2482

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 22, 2007

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH CONIGLIO

District 38 (Bergen)

Senator RONALD L. RICE

District 28 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for plaques in State House to honor Hutchins F. Inge and Walter Gilbert Alexander, first African-American Senator and Assemblyman.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT providing for plaques to honor New Jersey's first African-
2 American Senator, Hutchins F. Inge, and New Jersey's first
3 African-American Assemblyman, Walter Gilbert Alexander, and
4 making an appropriation.

5
6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
7 of New Jersey:

8
9 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

10 a. In 1966, Dr. Hutchins F. Inge of Newark became the first
11 African-American to serve in the New Jersey State Senate and in
12 1921, Dr. Walter Gilbert Alexander of Orange became the first
13 African-American to serve in the New Jersey General Assembly;

14 b. At the time Senator Inge took office, he had already
15 established himself as a distinguished citizen of our State, having
16 graduated from both the University of Minnesota College of
17 Pharmacy and Howard University School of Medicine and serving
18 on the staff of Presbyterian Hospital;

19 c. Senator Inge had also served his community with distinction,
20 as a director of the Essex Urban League and the New Jersey
21 Association for Retarded Children, and as a staff physician for the
22 Newark Board of Health's Division of Child Hygiene;

23 d. During Senator Inge's tenure in the Senate, he served as the
24 chairman of the Senate Federal and Interstate Relations Committee,
25 and was a supporter of measures to aid education, transportation,
26 and housing;

27 e. Walter Gilbert Alexander was born in Lynchburg, Virginia on
28 December 3, 1880, and was the son of former slaves;

29 f. At the age of fourteen, he entered Lincoln University as the
30 youngest student in his class and the youngest student that had ever
31 matriculated at that university;

32 g. Walter Gilbert Alexander graduated from Lincoln University
33 magna cum laude in 1899, having won the Bradley Medal in natural
34 science and being honored as the Latin Salutatorian of his class;

35 h. After graduation, he entered the Boston College of Physicians
36 and Surgeons, and graduated in June 1903 after winning first prize
37 for his thesis;

38 i. A distinguished physician, he served as General Secretary and
39 later President of the National Medical Association;

40 j. During Assemblyman Alexander's tenure in the Assembly, he
41 served on committees concerning epileptics and public health, and
42 sponsored legislation addressing civil rights and health care;

43 k. In March 1921, Assemblyman Alexander was honored by his
44 fellow lawmakers who asked him to preside over the Assembly for
45 thirty minutes, while a laudatory resolution commending him on his
46 legislative service was read;

47 l. It is fitting and proper that this State honor Senator Hutchins
48 F. Inge and Assemblyman Walter Gilbert Alexander by placing

1 plaques in the State House to commemorate their tenure as
2 members of the New Jersey Legislature.

3

4 2. Plaques to honor Senator Hutchins F. Inge, New Jersey's first
5 African-American State Senator, and Assemblyman Walter Gilbert
6 Alexander, New Jersey's first African-American Assemblyman,
7 shall be displayed in the State House at Trenton.

8

9 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary
10 of State such amounts as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose
11 of section 2 of this act, subject to approval by the Director of the
12 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
13 Treasury.

14

15 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

16

17

18

STATEMENT

19

20 This committee substitute provides for the display of two plaques
21 in the State House: one in honor of Senator Hutchins F. Inge, New
22 Jersey's first African-American State Senator and one in honor of
23 Assemblyman Walter Gilbert Alexander, New Jersey's first African-
24 American Assemblyman. Senator Inge, a physician from Newark,
25 served from 1966 until 1968 and was the chairman of the Senate
26 Federal and Interstate Relations Committee. Assemblyman
27 Alexander, a physician from Orange, became a member of the
28 General Assembly in 1921.

SENATE, No. 877

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 17, 2006

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for plaque in State House to honor Walter Gilbert Alexander, first African-American Assemblyman.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT providing for a plaque to honor New Jersey's first African-
2 American Assemblyman, Walter Gilbert Alexander, and making
3 an appropriation.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Walter Gilbert Alexander was born in Lynchburg, Virginia on
10 December 3, 1880, and was the son of former slaves;

11 b. At the age of fourteen, he entered Lincoln University as the
12 youngest student in his class and the youngest student that had ever
13 matriculated at that university;

14 c. Walter Gilbert Alexander graduated from Lincoln University
15 magna cum laude in 1899, having won the Bradley Medal in natural
16 science and being honored as the Latin Salutatorian of his class;

17 d. After graduation, he entered the Boston College of Physicians
18 and Surgeons, and graduated in June 1903 after winning first prize
19 for his thesis;

20 e. A distinguished physician, he served as General Secretary and
21 later President of the National Medical Association,

22 f. In 1920, Dr. Walter Gilbert Alexander of Orange became the
23 first African-American to serve in the New Jersey General
24 Assembly;

25 g. During Assemblyman Alexander's tenure in the Assembly, he
26 served on committees concerning epileptics and public health, and
27 sponsored legislation addressing civil rights and health care;

28 h. In March 1921, Assemblyman Alexander was honored by his
29 fellow lawmakers who asked him to preside over the Assembly for
30 thirty minutes, while a laudatory resolution commending him on his
31 legislative service was read;

32 i. It is fitting and proper that this State honor Assemblyman
33 Walter Gilbert Alexander by placing a plaque in the State House to
34 commemorate his tenure as a member of the General Assembly.

35
36 2. A plaque to honor Assemblyman Walter Gilbert Alexander,
37 New Jersey's first African-American Assemblyman, shall be
38 displayed in the State House at Trenton.

39
40 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary
41 of State such amounts as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose
42 of section 2 of this act, subject to approval by the Director of the
43 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
44 Treasury.

45
46 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, Nos. 2482 and 877

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 29, 2007

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Nos. 2482 and 877.

This substitute provides for the display of two plaques in the State House: one in honor of Senator Hutchins F. Inge, New Jersey's first African-American State Senator, and one in honor of Assemblyman Walter Gilbert Alexander, New Jersey's first African-American Assemblyman.

The substitute appropriates from the General Fund to the Secretary of State such amounts of money as may be necessary to purchase the plaques, subject to approval by the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the Treasury.

This substitute is identical to an Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly No. 2339 ACS.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2339

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 212th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 6, 2006

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman REED GUSCIORA

District 15 (Mercer)

Assemblywoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

District 15 (Mercer)

Assemblyman MIMS HACKETT, JR.

District 27 (Essex)

Assemblyman LOUIS M. MANZO

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

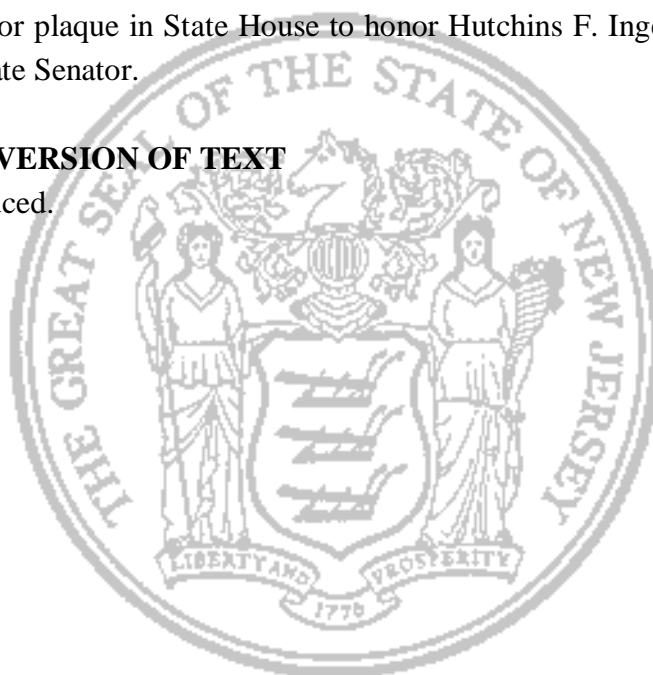
Assemblyman Giblin

SYNOPSIS

Provides for plaque in State House to honor Hutchins F. Inge, first African-American State Senator.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/2/2006)

1 AN ACT providing for a plaque to honor New Jersey's first African-
2 American Senator, Hutchins F. Inge, and making an
3 appropriation.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. In 1966, Dr. Hutchins F. Inge of Newark became the first
10 African-American to serve in the New Jersey State Senate;

11 b. At the time Senator Inge took office, he had already
12 established himself as a distinguished citizen of our State, having
13 graduated from both the University of Minnesota College of
14 Pharmacy and Howard University School of Medicine and serving
15 on the staff of Presbyterian Hospital;

16 c. Senator Inge had also served his community with distinction,
17 as a director of the Essex Urban League and the New Jersey
18 Association for Retarded Children, and as a staff physician for the
19 Newark Board of Health's Division of Child Hygiene;

20 d. During Senator Inge's tenure in the Senate, he served as the
21 chairman of the Senate Federal and Interstate Relations Committee,
22 and was a supporter of measures to aid education, transportation,
23 and housing;

24 e. It is fitting and proper that this State honor Senator Hutchins
25 F. Inge by placing a plaque in the State House to commemorate his
26 tenure as a Senator.

27
28 2. A plaque to honor Senator Hutchins F. Inge, New Jersey's
29 first African-American State Senator, shall be displayed in the State
30 House at Trenton.

31
32 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary
33 of State such amounts as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose
34 of section 2 of this act, subject to approval by the Director of the
35 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
36 Treasury.

37
38 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

39

40

41

STATEMENT

42

43 This bill would provide for a plaque to be displayed in the State
44 House in honor of Senator Hutchins F. Inge, New Jersey's first
45 African-American State Senator. Senator Inge, a physician from
46 Newark, served from 1966 until 1968. During his tenure in the
47 Senate, he was the chairman of the Senate Federal and Interstate
48 Relations Committee.

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
ASSEMBLY, No. 2339

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 1, 2006

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably an Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 2339.

This committee substitute provides for the display of two plaques in the State House: one in honor of Senator Hutchins F. Inge, New Jersey's first African-American State Senator and one in honor of Assemblyman Walter Gilbert Alexander, New Jersey's first African-American Assemblyman. Senator Inge, a physician from Newark, served from 1966 until 1968 and was the chairman of the Senate Federal and Interstate Relations Committee. Assemblyman Alexander, a physician from Orange, became a member of the General Assembly in 1921.

Apr-04-07 Governor Signs Legislation Honoring New Jersey's First African-American State Senator and Assemblyman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2007

Press Office
609-777-2600

GOVERNOR SIGNS LEGISLATION HONORING NEW JERSEY'S FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN STATE SENATOR AND ASSEMBLYMAN

TRENTON – Governor Jon S. Corzine today signed a bill providing for the display of plaques in the Statehouse to honor former lawmakers Hutchins F. Inge and Walter Gilbert Alexander, New Jersey's first African-American state senator and assemblyman, respectively.

“Senator Hutchins Inge and Assemblyman Walter Gilbert Alexander were true trailblazers, men who through their struggle and example opened the doors of opportunity for countless New Jerseyans,” Governor Corzine said. **“They deserve our recognition and appreciation for expanding the reach of our democracy and ensuring that everyone has a voice and role in the political process.”**

Dr. Hutchins Inge was a physician who worked at United Presbyterian Hospital in Newark and represented Newark in the State Senate from 1966 through 1968. Senator Inge chaired the Senate Federal and Interstate Relations Committee and also served as director of the Essex Urban League. Dr. Inge was a graduate of the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy and the Howard University School of Medicine. He died in 2002.

“Assemblyman Alexander and Senator Inge are true pioneers, having broken the color barrier and blazed a trail for so many African-American lawmakers who have come since,” said Senator Coniglio (D-Bergen), a Senate sponsor. **“Their legacy to this State goes far behind the terms they served, or the laws they shepherded through the process, to the very core of equality for all people, regardless of skin color. It is only fitting that we recognize their remarkable achievements on behalf of African-Americans in New Jersey in the place where they made history – the New Jersey Statehouse.”**

Dr. Walter Gilbert Alexander was also a physician by profession and was elected to the General Assembly in 1921, serving two terms. Assemblyman Alexander served on committees that dealt with health care and sponsored legislation on a range of issues having to do with health care and civil rights. He was the son of former enslaved Americans and the youngest student to enter Lincoln University, which he did at the age of 14. Dr. Alexander, who also served as General Secretary and President of the National Medical Association, died in 1953.

“Senator Inge and Assemblyman Alexander were able to break through the barriers of racial inequality and serve as trailblazers in New Jersey politics,” said Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-Mercer), an Assembly sponsor. **“We have a responsibility to recognize the historic contributions of African Americans like Hutchins F. Inge and Walter Gilbert Alexander. The legacies of these distinguished New Jerseyans has set an example of excellence in public service that continues to stand for all people to this day.”**

The bill, S2482/A2339 was sponsored in the Senate by Senators Rice (D-Essex) and Tom Kean (R-Essex, Morris, Somerset, Union). It was also sponsored in the Assembly by Assemblypersons Watson Coleman (D-Mercer), Hackett (D-Essex), Manzo (D-Hudson), Conners (D-Burlington, Camden), Carroll (R-Morris) and Sean Kean (R-Monmouth).