

36:2-34

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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("Day of Prayer")

NJSA: 36:2-34

LAWS OF: 1994 CHAPTER: 44

BILL NO: A1405

SPONSOR(S): Felice and others

DATE INTRODUCED: February 28, 1994

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: State Government
SENATE: State Government

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: May, 23 1994
SENATE: May 23, 1994

DATE OF APPROVAL: June 21, 1994

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

KBG:pp

P.L.1994, CHAPTER 44, *approved June 21, 1994*
1994 Assembly No. 1405

1 AN ACT designating the first Thursday in May each year as "A
2 Day of Prayer in New Jersey."
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4 WHEREAS, Civic prayers and national days of prayer have a long
5 and venerable history in our constitutional republic, dating
6 back to the First Continental Congress in 1775; and

7 WHEREAS, The Declaration of Independence, our first statement
8 as Americans of national purpose and identity, made "the Laws
9 of Nature and of Nature's God" the foundation of our United
10 States of America and asserted that people have inalienable
11 rights that are God-given; and

12 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court has affirmed the right of state
13 legislatures to open their sessions with prayer and the Supreme
14 Court and the U. S. Congress themselves begin each day with
15 prayer; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1988, legislation setting aside the first Thursday in
17 May in each year as a National Day of Prayer was passed
18 unanimously by both Houses of Congress and signed by
19 President Ronald Reagan; and

20 WHEREAS, The National Day of Prayer is an opportunity for
21 Americans of all faiths to join in united prayer to acknowledge
22 our dependence on God, to give thanks for blessings received,
23 to request healing for wounds endured, and to ask God to guide
24 our leaders and bring wholeness to the United States and her
25 citizens; and

26 WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper to give thanks to God by
27 observing a day of prayer in New Jersey when all may
28 acknowledge our blessings and express gratitude for them,
29 while recognizing the need for strengthening religious and
30 moral values in our State and nation; now, therefore,
31

32 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and the General Assembly of*
33 *the State of New Jersey:*

34 1. The first Thursday in May each year is designated as "A Day
35 of Prayer in New Jersey" and the citizens of New Jersey are
36 urged to observe the day in ways appropriate to its importance
37 and significance.

38 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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41 STATEMENT
42

43 This bill designates permanently the first Thursday in May each
44 year as "A Day of Prayer in New Jersey" and urges the citizens
45 of New Jersey to observe this day in ways appropriate to its
46 importance and significance. Federal law sets aside the first
47 Thursday in May in each year as a National Day of Prayer.

A1405

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Designates first Thursday in May as "A Day of Prayer in New Jersey."

STATEMENT

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This bill designates permanently the first Thursday in May each year as "A Day of Prayer in New Jersey" and urges the citizens of New Jersey to observe this day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance. Federal law sets aside the first Thursday in May in each year as a National Day of Prayer.



Designates first Thursday in May as "A Day of Prayer in New Jersey."

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1405

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 24, 1994

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1405.

This bill designates permanently the first Thursday in May each year, already established in federal law as a National Day of Prayer, as "A Day of Prayer in New Jersey" and urges the citizens of New Jersey to observe this day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1405

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 19, 1994

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1405.

This bill designates permanently the first Thursday in May each year, already established in federal law as a National Day of Prayer, as "A Day of Prayer in New Jersey" and urges the citizens of New Jersey to observe this day in ways appropriate to its importance and significance.