

52:9A-5

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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NJSA: 52:9A-5

(State Dinosaur)

LAWS OF: 1991

CHAPTER: 161

Bill No: A1660

Sponsor(s): Shusted and Rocco

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: State Government

Senate: State Government

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: January 17, 1991

Senate: May 9, 1991

Date of Approval: June 13, 1991

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee Statement: Assembly: Yes

Senate: Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on signing: Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

See newspaper clipping--attached:

KBG/SLJ

P.L.1991, CHAPTER 161, approved June 13, 1991

1990 Assembly No. 1660

1 AN ACT designating the Hadrosaurus Foulkii as the New Jersey
2 State Dinosaur.

3
4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the
5 State of New Jersey:

6 1. The Legislature finds that:

7 a. The Hadrosaurus Foulkii, the first nearly complete dinosaur
8 skeleton to be discovered virtually intact anywhere in the world,
9 was unearthed in October, 1858, in a marl pit in Haddonfield,
10 Camden County, by William Parke Foulke, a member of the
11 prestigious Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

12 b. This discovery of a 25-foot, eight-ton, duck-billed,
13 herbivorous saurian (or reptile), which stood as high as ten feet at
14 the hips, was so unexpected and unusual that it startled the
15 scientific thinking of the day and lead to a revision of many
16 conventional ideas as to the physical structure and life habits of
17 prehistoric reptiles and provided a great stimulus to the study of
18 dinosaurs which, until then, were relatively unknown outside the
19 scientific community.

20 c. This dinosaur, which lived 70 to 100 million years ago during
21 the Cretaceous period and which was given the name Hadrosaurus
22 Foulkii in honor of its discoverer, was the first dinosaur to be
23 displayed for public view, attracting tens of thousands of visitors
24 to the Academy of Natural Sciences where it was on view from
25 the 1870's to the 1940's.

26 d. The Hadrosaurus Foulkii has been recently reinstalled as one
27 of the main features in a permanent exhibit at the Academy of
28 Natural Sciences.

29 e. In order to pay recognition to the scientific importance of
30 New Jersey's Hadrosaurus Foulkii, it is fitting and appropriate to
31 designate it as the State Dinosaur.

32 2. The Hadrosaurus Foulkii is designated as the New Jersey
33 State Dinosaur.

34 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

35

36

37

STATE GOVERNMENT

38

39 Designates the Hadrosaurus Foulkii as the State Dinosaur.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1660
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel
PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1990 SESSION

By Assemblymen SHUSTED and ROCCO

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35

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STATEMENT

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39 This bill designates the Hadrosaurus Foulkii as the State
40 Dinosaur. This dinosaur was unearthed in Haddonfield, Camden
41 County, in 1858 and was the first virtually complete dinosaur

1 skeleton ever to be found anywhere in the world. Its discovery
2 lead to a revision of many theories of the physical structure and
3 habits of the dinosaur. It was the first dinosaur to be publicly
4 displayed and as a result it generated tremendous scientific and
5 lay interest in the study of prehistoric life.

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8 STATE GOVERNMENT

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Designates the Hadrosaurus Foulkii as the State Dinosaur.

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1660

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 17, 1990

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1660.

This bill designates the Hadrosaurus Foulkii as the State Dinosaur. The Hadrosaurus Foulkii was unearthed in Haddonfield, Camden County, in 1858 and was the first virtually complete dinosaur skeleton ever to be found anywhere in the world. Its discovery led to a revision of many theories of the physical structure and habits of the dinosaur. It was the first dinosaur to be publicly displayed and as a result it generated tremendous scientific and lay interest in the study of prehistoric life.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 1990 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT AND FEDERAL
AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1660

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 31, 1991

The Senate State Government and Federal and Interstate Relations Committee reports favorably Assembly, No. 1660.

This bill designates the Hadrosaurus Foulkii as the New Jersey State Dinosaur. The Hadrosaurus Foulkii was unearthed in Haddonfield, Camden County, in 1858 and was the first nearly complete dinosaur skeleton to be discovered virtually intact anywhere in the world. Its discovery led to a revision of many theories of the physical structure and life habits of prehistoric reptiles. It was the first dinosaur skeleton to be publicly displayed and, as a result, it generated tremendous scientific and lay interest in the study of prehistoric life.



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CN-001
Contact:

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TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: Thursday
 June 13, 1991

NO BONES ABOUT IT: State Names Official Dinosaur

What's 25 feet long, 10 feet high and weighs 8 tons?

The Hadrosaurus Foulkii -- the state's new official dinosaur designated today under legislation signed by Governor Jim Florio. Today's signing marks the end of an era of intensive lobbying efforts to designate the more than 70-million-year-old dinosaur by some of the reptile's younger fossil fans -- students at the Strawbridge Elementary School in Westmont.

"We're still asking a lot of questions about dinosaurs, but the one we won't ask from the day forward is 'What's New Jersey's dinosaur? From here on out, we'll say the Hadrosaurus Foulkii. I think it's only fitting. After all, the Hadrosauruses were here long before there was a New Jersey. They deserve the recognition," said Governor Florio. "The discovery of the Hadrosaurus was really remarkable and its effects were far reaching. It launched the modern science of paleontology. And it gave us the first glimpse into life on this planet in the age of dinosaurs."

The duck-billed dinosaur was unearthed nearly intact in 1858 in a sand and limestone pit in Haddonfield by William Parke Foulke, a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences -- the first nearly complete dinosaur skeleton to be found in the world. The dinosaur, which lived 70 to 100 million years ago during the Cretaceous period, was named the Hadrosaurus Foulkii in honor of its discoverer. The dinosaur currently resides in Philadelphia's Academy of Natural Sciences. The bill officially designating the dinosaur was sponsored by Assemblymen Thomas Shusted and John Rocco.

"The Hadrosaurus has waited long enough. Some people might think this is a trivial sort of thing - that it really doesn't matter what dinosaur the state picks," said the Governor. "That just shows what they know about dinosaurs and New Jersey. Particularly the Hadrosaurus and New Jersey. Historically speaking, those two were perfect together."



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