



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION
No. 16
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 24, 2002

Sponsored by:

Senator LEONARD LANCE
District 23 (Warren and Hunterdon)
Senator NIA H. GILL
District 34 (Essex and Passaic)
Assemblyman NEIL M. COHEN
District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

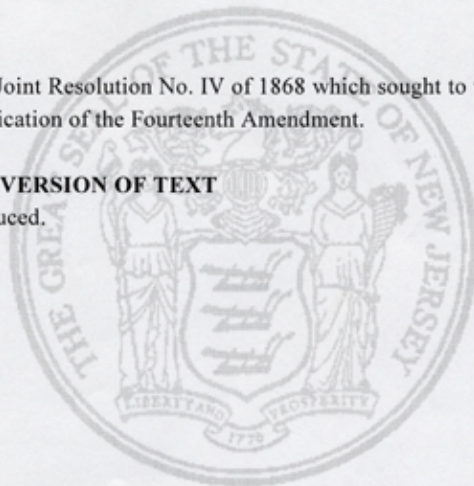
Senators McNamara, Allen, Cardinale, Assemblymen O'Toole and Doherty

SYNOPSIS

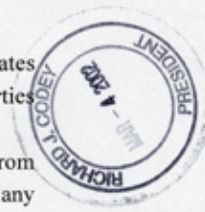
Revokes Joint Resolution No. IV of 1868 which sought to withdraw New Jersey's ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/14/2003)



1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** revoking Joint Resolution No. IV of 1868
2 which sought to withdraw New Jersey's ratification of the
3 Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
4
5 **WHEREAS**, The Fourteenth Amendment to the United States
6 Constitution granted citizenship to, and protected the civil liberties
7 of, freed slaves; and
8 **WHEREAS**, The Fourteenth Amendment also prohibits states from
9 abridging the privileges or immunities of any citizen, depriving any
10 person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, or
11 denying any person equal protection of the laws; and
12 **WHEREAS**, The rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment are
13 part of the foundation of our free society; and
14 **WHEREAS**, In 1866, the New Jersey Legislature acted to ensure these
15 rights by ratifying the Fourteenth Amendment; and
16 **WHEREAS**, Thereafter, the New Jersey Legislature, in 1868, attempted
17 to withdraw its ratification of this amendment by passage of Joint
18 Resolution No. IV; and
19 **WHEREAS**, Both the Federal Secretary of State and the Congress
20 refused to recognize New Jersey's attempt to withdraw ratification
21 and the Fourteenth Amendment became a part of the United States
22 Constitution on July 20, 1868; and
23 **WHEREAS**, The attempt to withdraw New Jersey's ratification of the
24 Fourteenth Amendment is contrary to this State's long tradition of
25 respect for, and protection of, the civil rights of all persons; and
26 **WHEREAS**, Even though the attempt to withdraw New Jersey's
27 ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment was without effect, there
28 is, nevertheless, a need to rectify this misguided action; now,
29 therefore,
30
31 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
32 of New Jersey:
33
34 1. Joint Resolution No. IV of 1868 which attempted to withdraw
35 New Jersey's ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment is hereby
36 revoked.
37
38 2. Duly authenticated copies of this Joint Resolution shall be
39 transmitted to the federal Secretary of State, the presiding officers of
40 the Congress of the United States, and each member of New Jersey's
41 congressional delegation.
42
43 3. This Joint Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Attest

MICHAEL R. DECOTIS
CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE GOVERNOR

APPROVED
23rd DAY OF April 20 03

JAMES E. MCGREEVEY
Governor

SJR16 LANCE, GILL
3



1 STATEMENT

2

3 This Joint Resolution revokes Joint Resolution No. IV of 1868
4 which attempted to withdraw New Jersey's ratification of the
5 Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

