

Governor Phil Murphy

Governor Murphy Directs the Lowering of U.S. and New Jersey Flags in Honor of Congressman Dick Zimmer

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TRENTON – Governor Murphy today signed

[Executive Order No. 412](https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-412.pdf) (<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-412.pdf>) ordering U.S. and New Jersey flags to fly at half-staff from Friday, January 16, 2026, until sunset on January 17, 2026, in recognition and mourning of dedicated public servant, Richard Alan (“Dick”) Zimmer.

U.S. Congressman Dick Zimmer was born on August 16, 1944, in Newark, New Jersey. A graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School, he built a distinguished legal career before entering public service. He was elected to the New Jersey Assembly in 1981 and the State Senate in 1987. In 1990, Congressman Zimmer was elected to the United States House of Representatives, representing New Jersey’s 12th Congressional District for three terms from 1991 to 1997, where he advanced legislation, including Megan’s Law which requires residents to be notified when a convicted sex offender moves into their neighborhood. In 2010, Governor Chris Christie appointed Congressman Zimmer as the chair of the New Jersey Privatization Task Force. Congressman Zimmer is survived by his wife of 60 years, Marfy Goodspeed; their sons Carl and Benjamin and their spouses; three granddaughters; and his three sisters Barbara Zimmer, Ilene Hyman, and Susan Rubin.

“For decades, Congressman Dick Zimmer dedicated his career to fiscal responsibility, child safety, and government transparency,” **said Governor Murphy**. “Throughout his time as a public servant, he successfully passed meaningful legislation aimed at helping New Jerseyans live safe lives. We will honor Congressman Zimmer’s legacy of leading with integrity, compassion, and determination.”

For a copy of Executive Order No. 412, click [here](https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-412.pdf) (<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-412.pdf>).

Governor Phil Murphy

[Home \(/governor/\)](/governor/)

[Administration](#)

[Governor Phil Murphy \(/governor/admin/about\)](/governor/admin/about)


Back
to top

[Lt. Governor Tahesha Way \(/governor/admin/lt\)](/governor/admin/lt)
[In memoriam of Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver \(/governor/admin/lt-sheila-y-oliver\)](/governor/admin/lt-sheila-y-oliver)
[Senior Staff \(/governor/admin/staff\)](/governor/admin/staff)
[Cabinet \(/governor/admin/cabinet\)](/governor/admin/cabinet)
[Office of Climate Action and the Green Economy \(/governor/climateaction/\)](/governor/climateaction/)
[Office of Equity \(/governor/admin/equity/\)](/governor/admin/equity/)
[Office of Health Care Affordability and Transparency \(/governor/admin/affordablehealthcare/index.shtml\)](/governor/admin/affordablehealthcare/index.shtml)
[Boards, Commissions & Authorities \(/governor/admin/bca\)](/governor/admin/bca)
[New Jersey Puerto Rico Commission \(https://www.nj.gov/puertoricocommission/\)](https://www.nj.gov/puertoricocommission/)
[Internship Opportunities \(/governor/admin/internship.shtml\)](/governor/admin/internship.shtml)
[Governor's Fellows Program \(/governor/admin/fellows\)](/governor/admin/fellows)
[Governor's Residence - Drumthwacket \(http://drumthwacket.org/\)](http://drumthwacket.org/)

Key Initiatives

[Economy & Jobs \(/governor/initiatives/#Economy\)](/governor/initiatives/#Economy)
[Education \(/governor/initiatives/#Education\)](/governor/initiatives/#Education)
[Environment \(/governor/initiatives/#Environment\)](/governor/initiatives/#Environment)
[Health \(/governor/initiatives/#Health\)](/governor/initiatives/#Health)
[Law & Justice \(/governor/initiatives/#Justice\)](/governor/initiatives/#Justice)
[Transportation \(/governor/initiatives/#Transportation\)](/governor/initiatives/#Transportation)

News & Events

[Press Releases \(/governor/news/news/562026/approved/news_archive.shtml\)](/governor/news/news/562026/approved/news_archive.shtml)
[Photos \(https://www.flickr.com/photos/govmurphy\)](https://www.flickr.com/photos/govmurphy)
[Public Addresses \(/governor/news/addresses\)](/governor/news/addresses)
[Executive Orders \(/infobank/eo/056murphy/approved/eo_archive.html\)](/infobank/eo/056murphy/approved/eo_archive.html)
[Administrative Orders \(/governor/news/ao/approved/ao_archive.shtml\)](/governor/news/ao/approved/ao_archive.shtml)
[Direct Appointments \(/governor/news/appointments\)](/governor/news/appointments)
[Advice and Consent Appointments \(/governor/news/acappointments\)](/governor/news/acappointments)
[Statements on Legislation \(/governor/news/statements/approved/statements_archive.shtml\)](/governor/news/statements/approved/statements_archive.shtml)
[Administration Reports \(/governor/news/adminreports/approved/archive.shtml\)](/governor/news/adminreports/approved/archive.shtml)
[Transition Reports \(/governor/news/reports/approved/reports_archive.shtml\)](/governor/news/reports/approved/reports_archive.shtml)
[Press Kits \(/governor/news/press\)](/governor/news/press)

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Bluesky (<https://bsky.app/profile/govmurphy.bsky.social>)

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Scheduling Requests (</governor/contact/scheduling/>)

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