

*New Jersey State Good Will Commission,*

*Report of the formation  
of commission  
authorized by*

**ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION  
No. 11**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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**Adopted June 4, 1938**

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New Jersey State Debt Commission

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION  
No. 11

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Adopted June 4, 1938



*On June 4, 1938, the following Joint Resolution was adopted  
by the New Jersey State Legislature*

## **ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11**

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### **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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**Adopted June 4, 1938**

**AN ACT** creating a commission to foster racial and religious understanding and good will and for the designation of a good-will or brotherhood holiday.

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey is a great industrial and agricultural State composed of various racial and religious groups; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the first requisites of a harmonious, contented and prosperous State or nation depends upon racial and religious tolerance and understanding; and

**WHEREAS**, the world is rent asunder by strife and wars and great injustice is being perpetrated upon minority peoples because of race, religion or creed; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey was among the first to enact laws for the punishment of the incitation to harm a resident thereof because of his race or religion; and

WHEREAS, it is clear that prevention through education and enlightenment is essential to thwart evil acts, and hence it is better to prevent than punish same; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has ever gloried in the great traditional and constitutional guarantees of the bill of rights; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. The Governor of this State is hereby authorized to appoint a commission of not more than fifteen residents of the State of New Jersey, composed as far as practicable to act as representatives of different racial and religious groups, to act as a permanent committee to foster racial and religious amity and understanding. The members of such commission shall hold office for terms of three years each and until their successors shall be appointed by the Governor.

The commission shall be known as the Good-Will Commission of the state of New Jersey. It shall organize by the selection of a chairman and secretary from among its members and all of the members of the commission shall serve without compensation. The commission is empowered to adopt rules and regulations for its administration.

The Governor shall, upon the request of the commission, establish each year by proclamation a certain day on which the residents of the State of New Jersey shall be requested to join in private and public functions for the celebration of such day, which shall be designated as Brotherhood and Good-Will Day.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.



Pursuant to this Joint Resolution, Governor A. Harry Moore, appointed the following commissioners in September 1938:

Good Will Commission of State of New Jersey:

Joseph A. Kenyon, 394 Warwick Ave.,  
Teaneck, N. J.

James D. Carton, 733 Mathison Ave.,  
Asbury Park, N. J.

Peter S. Prazmowski, 280 Sip Ave.,  
Jersey City, N. J.

Harold Meincke, 410 Koenig Place,  
Rahway, N. J.

Arthur Potterton, City Hall,  
Jersey City, N. J.

H. B. Bell, 1751 Watchung Ave.,  
Plainfield, N. J.

Charles H. Roemer, 152 Market St.,  
Paterson, N. J.

Rabbi Abraham Holtzberg, 520 Riverside Ave.,  
Trenton, N. J.

Meyer Pesin, 361 Central Ave.,  
Jersey City, N. J.

Edward Cohn, 18 Elmora Ave.,  
Elizabeth, N. J.

Mrs. Myra Blakeslee, 168 South Clinton,  
East Orange, N. J.

Mrs. Miriam Lippincott, 406 Cooper St.,  
Camden, N. J.

Rev. J. C. Love, 118 Pompton Ave.,  
Verona, N. J.

Thomas G. Tusso,  
Vineland, N. J.

Alexander Crothers, c/o So. Jersey Port Com.,  
Camden, N. J.

The Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Resolution, met and adopted rules and regulations for its guidance, and elected the Honorable Arthur Potterton as its first Chairman, and Mrs. Myra Blakeslee as Secretary.

Since then, pressure of other affairs has caused Mr. Potterton to tender his resignation as Chairman of the Commission, altho he still retains membership, and Mr. H. B. Bell has been elected as the second Chairman.

The plan of organization, adopted by the Commission, for the proper execution of their mission, is as follows:

*Formation:*

1. Appointment of a County Chairman and Vice-Chairman for each county in the state. Vice Chairman when possible to be selected from the ranks of the ladies.

2. Appointment of county committees by County Chairmen and Vice-Chairman, with advice and consent of State Commission. Members of commission to be of all racial and religious groups as provided for the Commission in the Joint Resolution creating the Commission.

3. Formation of County plans for promulgation of good will and racial and religious tolerance.

These plans will of course vary from each other in various communities, but shall all be in line with the general plans issued by the Commission, and to be conducted on a broad and tolerant attitude toward all racial and religious groups.



County Chairman shall choose city, borough or town committee of Good Will; amount of members on committee shall be determined by chairman, for example, Essex County Committeeman may decide that 12 committeemen, more or less, shall be chosen in Newark, 6 in Irvington, 5 elsewhere, etc. In no case shall less than 3 be chosen in any city or town. Appointees shall be of various race and faith as far as practicable at least one of each faith being chosen. Procedures for appointment may be made at sole discretion of Chairman. He may appoint on personal acquaintance and knowledge of fitness of candidate with preference being made, however, to the more prominent and respected residents of the community. He should seek recommendations from the Mayors of every city or town whenever possible and particularly where chairman is unacquainted with candidates in various cities, towns or boroughs in his county. Committees when chosen shall be known by their city names as Newark Good Will Committee, Morristown Good Will Committee, etc.; chairman may designate chairman of local committees if he desires or if he has no preference, he may leave it to the members of the committee.

Programs for County Committee shall be as follows:—

County organization meeting including all cities and municipalities to convene as soon as possible after a majority of local committees have been formed. A Commissioner may be invited to such organization meeting. Notice of such organization meeting to be given to Secretary of Commission who is to notify the Commissioners so that anyone of them may be present, if desired. At organization meet-

ing plans should immediately be made for a county-wide meeting of forum of Good-Will to which prominent local or outside speakers may be invited. General discussion after organizational plans are made should be held as to the functions and purposes of the Commission.

The following outline of action for local committees are to be made:—

Local committee meetings — plans for fostering and spreading good will in community to be made which are to include Good Will meetings, symposiums, forums, radio broadcasts, etc.

County meetings shall be held quarterly or upon call of county chairman, at which all local committees may discuss common questions and methods of procedures and functions adopted by them for guidance of other local groups.

Official Good Will Day shall be observed by some function in every city, town or borough in the State.

#### *Objective:*

An effort should be made to hold at least one meeting of any of the following media, per month in each county, and plans made for a general state wide celebration of Brotherhood and Good Will Day, as proclaimed by the Governor of the State, each year.

It is the feeling of the Commission that as much effort as possible be spent with the school children, in order to inculcate in their minds the principles of good will, tolerance for others and brotherly love.

#### *Methods to be followed:*

In general, the following methods are suggested for this work, altho suggestions will be more than wel-



come to the Commission, and supplements to this brochure will be issued from time to time as experience and research develop new methods.

In any of the following methods of approach, it is suggested that whenever possible, music be furnished to lead the audience in patriotic songs, remembering that the United States was founded by seekers for religious and racial tolerance, and that New Jersey has always been in the fore front of such toleration.

1. Public meetings with local speakers or speakers to be provided by the Committee on Speakers of the Commission. (Note: A list of standing committees of the Commission will be appended later, for reference).

2. Private meetings and friendly discussion.

3. Work among schools, such as offering prizes for essays on good will, religious and racial tolerance. Winners in each county to be selected by Judges appointed by County Chairmen and the essays of county winners to be published and copies sent to Commission, who will select State winners.

Standing Committee should be established to handle this phase of activity and State winners should be given prizes by the Governor of the State. All prizes to be furnished by Commission.

4. Radio Broadcasts.

5. Letters should be sent by County Chairmen to all local Service Clubs, (Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, Exchange, etc.,) Chambers of Commerce, etc., requesting cooperation and calling attention to Commission and its purposes, and particularly, asking them to read the Governor's proclamation of Good Will Day at any meetings held during that month.

6. List of speakers willing to talk on Good Will should be compiled at once and the above named organizations should be encouraged to ask for a speaker on this topic at one or more of their meetings. County Chairmen are requested to forward names of able local speakers to chairman of speakers committee.

7. Womens Clubs and Societies, also patriotic organizations and Veterans' Organizations, should be contacted and invited to cooperate in work of commission by arranging good will programs of their own and participate in programs of Commission.

8. Teachers and clergy should be asked to speak to their Classes and Congregations about the Commission and its purposes, so that every one may be familiar with the efforts of the State to promote a program of Good Will. Particularly, they should be requested to read the Governor's proclamation publicly to their people during Good Will Month.

9. Moving picture houses should be contacted by local committee members and asked to flash short greetings and Good Will shorts on the screen. During the week in which Good Will Day falls, they should be asked to show the Governor's proclamation at every show, leaving it on the screen long enough for people to read clearly.

10. Parent-Teacher Associations should be asked to discuss the Commission and its program in every community. Speakers should be furnished on request.

Subject should receive all publicity possible and County Chairmen should arrange to forward clippings on any of their activity to Secretary of the Commission.

Following is list of County Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen appointed to date. This list will be supplemented as others are appointed.



# STATE OF NEW JERSEY GOOD WILL COMMISSION

## *County Chairmen and Vice Chairmen*

COUNTY	CHAIRMEN	VICE CHAIRMEN
Atlantic	Judge Joseph A. Corio Guarantee Trust Bldg. Atlantic City	Hon. Joseph Altman Guarantee Trust Bldg. Atlantic City
Bergen		
Burlington		
Camden	Judge Clifford A. Baldwin Merchantville	Hon Samuel P. Orlando Camden
Cape May	Judge Palmer M. Way Union Bank Bldg., Wildwood	Hon. French B. Loveland Cape May Court House
Cumberland	Judge Solvo Tuso 614 Landis Ave., Vineland	Hon. Thomas G. Tuso Vineland
Essex	Mr. Peter A. Smith 545 No. Arlington Ave. East Orange	Mrs. Charles F. Robbins Llewellyn Park West Orange
Gloucester	Judge Elmer B. Woods Woodbury	Hon. Lynwood Lord 45 Cooper St., Woodbury
Hudson	Mr. Archie Elder c/o Buick Co., Bergen Ave. Jersey City	Mrs. Sarah G. Fellerman 146 Griffith St. Jersey City
Hunterdon	Hon. Anthony W. Hauck, Jr. First Natl. Bank Bldg. Clinton	
Mercer	Mr. James Kearney Trenton Times, Trenton	Dr. Robert R. Wick University Chapel, Princeton
Middlesex		
Monmouth	Mr. J. Layton Prout 248 Liberty St., Long Branch	Mrs. Gertrude Thompson Red Bank
Morris	Mr. Guilford C. Babcock Rockaway	Mrs. Arlo A. Brown 36 Madison Ave., Madison
Ocean	Judge Percy Camp Toms River	
Passaic	Rev. Ernest A. Elwell 545 Broadway, Paterson	Miss Nell Doremus (YWCA) 35 Church St., Paterson
Salem	Judge S. Rusling Leap Woodstown	Hon. Wm. W. Grier Salem
Somerset	Rev. David R. Evans 22 North Bridge St. Somerville, N. J.	
Sussex	Hon. Henry T. Kays Newton	
Union	Mr. Gregg Frost 345 Morris Ave. Springfield	
Warren	Hon. Clayton Welliver Belvidere, N. J.	Miss Carrie Lambert 90 Glen Ave., Phillipsburg

## DISTRICT COMMITTEES:

The following district committees have been appointed and any questions arising may be taken up with these committees.

COMMISSIONERS	COUNTIES IN DISTRICT
1. Mr. Tuso Mr. Crothers Mrs. Lippencott	Atlantic - Cape May - Cumberland - Camden - Gloucester - Salem.
2. Mr. Meincke Mr. Cohn Mr. Bell	Hunterdon - Middlesex - Monmouth - Somerset - Union.
3. Mr. Pesin Mr. Potterton Mr. Kenyon Mr. Prazmowski	Hudson Bergen Sussex
4. Mr. Roemer Dr. Love Mrs. Blakeslee	Essex - Passaic - Morris - Warren.
5. Dr. Holtzberg Mr. Carton	Mercer - Ocean - Burlington.

These pamphlets are made up in loose leaf form so that additions or changes can be made and County Committees are requested to forward to the Commission any suggestions they feel will be helpful in forwarding the purposes for which the Commission was created.

## NEW JERSEY STATE GOOD WILL COMMISSION