

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, WAGERING, TOURISM &
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 100

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 2, 2023

The Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee reports favorably Senate Joint Resolution No. 100.

This resolution designates the month of August as “Civic Health Month” in New Jersey.

Civic engagement provides a voter the opportunity to shape the policies that affect the health of a voter’s local community. Civic health describes the capacity of a community to address issues that impact the well-being of community members by participating in elections and other civic engagement.

Health outcomes may be determined by non-medical factors, often called social determinants of health, such as access to food, transportation, and affordable housing. Civic health is also recognized as a social determinant of an individual’s health. Medical professionals have made great strides in addressing many social determinants of health that affect a patient’s health including hunger, drug addiction, and homelessness.

Empowering community members to register to vote and participate in elections improves community-level civic health and individual-level physical and mental health. Over 200 hospitals, healthcare associations, and civic engagement organizations celebrate “Civic Health Month” each August. Therefore, it is altogether fitting and proper to designate August of each year as “Civic Health Month” in New Jersey.