

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 144**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2017

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Commends Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation Laboratory for contributions to ocean research, data collection, technology, and forecasting.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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- 1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** commending the Rutgers University
2 Coastal Ocean Observation Laboratory for its contributions to
3 ocean research, data collection, technology, and forecasting.
4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, is a global
6 leader in ocean science, data collection, technology, and
7 forecasting; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, The University's Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences
9 (IMCS) is an oceanographic research institute dedicated to
10 understanding the processes that govern change and sustainability
11 in the world's oceans to best use and protect vital marine and
12 coastal resources; and
- 13 **WHEREAS**, The Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation
14 Laboratory, known also more recently as the Rutgers University
15 Center of Ocean Observing Leadership (RU COOL), part of the
16 IMCS, was established in 1992 as part of the National
17 Oceanographic Partnership Program and focuses on understanding
18 the bio-physical processes of the coastal oceans and their impacts
19 on human society; and
- 20 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL utilizes a state-of-the-art facility and satellite,
21 high frequency radar, and underwater glider technology to improve
22 how water quality problems are investigated in the State, helping to
23 maintain healthy New Jersey shores; and
- 24 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL has taken a national leadership role in
25 developing the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), which
26 gathers data on key coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes variables and
27 ensures timely and sustained dissemination of that data to support
28 economic development, public safety, and resource management;
29 and
- 30 **WHEREAS**, The IOOS is the United States' contribution to the Global
31 Ocean Observing System, a permanent global system for
32 observations, modelling, and analysis of marine and ocean variables
33 to support operational ocean services worldwide; and
- 34 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL also plays a major role in the Mid-Atlantic
35 Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association, which provides
36 data and forecasts of ocean surface currents to the United States
37 Coast Guard for incorporation in its search and rescue operations;
38 and
- 39 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL provides an unprecedented view of coastal
40 waters through a suite of ocean technologies including satellites, a
41 network of high-frequency radar systems, and a fleet of robotic
42 gliders that fly beneath the ocean surface; and
- 43 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL has partnered with over 25 companies to
44 develop new technologies, such as ocean sensors, sampling
45 platforms, and communication networks, which benefit New Jersey
46 students and the economy; and
- 47 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL has attracted over \$80 million in federal
48 funding over the past decade and worked with researchers from

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1 institutions around the world through its collaborative
2 interdisciplinary programs; and

3 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL's ocean research, data collection, technology,
4 and forecasting have also aided New Jersey's recreational and
5 commercial fishing industries, increased the efficiency, security,
6 and resiliency of maritime transportation, and facilitated the
7 development of alternative energy sources; and

8 **WHEREAS**, RU COOL played a key role in the forecasting,
9 preparedness, and response during Hurricanes Irene and Sandy;
10 now, therefore,

11
12 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the
13 General Assembly concurring):

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15 1. The Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation
16 Laboratory in the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences at
17 Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, is commended for its
18 valuable contributions to ocean research, data collection,
19 technology, and forecasting, which have provided numerous and
20 invaluable benefits to the people of the State, the United States, and
21 the global community.

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23 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
24 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
25 Secretary of the Senate to the President of Rutgers University and
26 the Directors of the Rutgers University Coastal Ocean Observation
27 Laboratory.

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STATEMENT

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32 This concurrent resolution would commend the Rutgers
33 University Coastal Ocean Observation Laboratory (RU COOL) for
34 its contributions to ocean research, data collection, technology, and
35 forecasting.

36 The laboratory, part of the Institute of Marine and Coastal
37 Sciences at Rutgers University, was established in 1992 and focuses
38 on understanding the bio-physical processes of the coastal oceans
39 and their impacts on human society. Among its many activities, RU
40 COOL helps investigate water quality problems in the State,
41 provides data to the U.S. Coast Guard and to national and
42 international ocean observation systems, and develops new
43 technologies in ocean observation. These activities enhance water
44 safety and storm response, assist search and rescue operations, aid
45 New Jersey recreational and commercial fisheries, enhance the
46 efficiency, security, and resiliency of the maritime transportation
47 network, and facilitate the development of renewable energy
48 technologies.