

State of New Jersey



THE SENATE

STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N. J.

SENATE RESOLUTION

By Senate President SWEENEY and All Senators

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Senate is pleased to join the Garden State's Sikh community, especially Bhupindar Singh and Boota Singh Kharoudh, in recognizing the importance of Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji as their faith's *Living Guru* in the spirit of peace and the declaration of Sikhs as a distinct ethnic and religious minority; and,

WHEREAS, When Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the tenth Sikh Guru, left the world in the early 1700s, he encouraged future generations to eschew idol worship and acknowledge the Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, the principal scripture of Sikhism, as the *Living and Eleventh Guru* of the Sikh religion, and a historic judgment delivered by the Supreme Court of India supported that great notion by declaring those sacred writings as a *Juristic Person*; and,

WHEREAS, As the world's fifth-largest religion with more than twenty-five million followers, Sikhism's proud tradition began with its founding in the fifteenth century by Guru Nanak, and its faithful members practice the universal principles of truthful living, service to humanity, and devotion to a higher power; and,

WHEREAS, Since arriving to our shores in the late 1800s, Sikhs have made invaluable contributions to the growth and prosperity of our State while enriching America's culture, history, economy, and diversity, and New Jersey's extraordinary Sikh citizens include Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal, Hoboken Mayor Ravinder Bhalla, and Burlington County Freeholder Balvir Singh; and,

WHEREAS, Their religion's unwavering commitment to helping those in need has inspired New Jersey's Sikhs to establish and participate in numerous praiseworthy programs, including the annual Let's Share a Meal events in Camden and Jersey City; and,

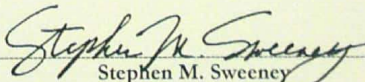
WHEREAS, The strength and success of the State of New Jersey, the vitality of its communities, and the effectiveness of our American society depend, in great measure, upon our various ethnic and religious groups, exemplified by the Sikh community, who share with us their rich and unique heritage; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:

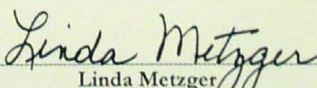
That this House hereby notes the importance of Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji and pays tribute to the meritorious record of service, leadership, and dedication of our State's Sikh residents; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution be signed by the President and attested by the Secretary.




Stephen M. Sweeney
President of the Senate

Attest:


Linda Metzger
Secretary of the Senate