



SPONSOR: Rep. Phillips & Rep. Longhurst

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 33

REMEMBERING DELABEAR AND THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING VIGILANT WHILE DRIVING TO PROTECT OUR WILDLIFE.

1 WHEREAS, Delaware has no native black bear population; and
2 WHEREAS, a black bear was spotted in the Newark area in 2016; and
3 WHEREAS, this bear was affectionately named Delabear; and
4 WHEREAS, bears have been spotted up and down the State in the last several years including in Trolley Square
5 and Milford; and
6 WHEREAS, on Saturday, June 22nd, 2024, a black bear was spotted in the Newark area; and
7 WHEREAS, this bear was affectionately named Delabear similar to previous black bears seen in New Castle
8 County; and
9 WHEREAS, this bear quickly won the hearts and minds of Delawareans and was eagerly tracked on social media;
10 and
11 WHEREAS, this black bear was spotted again in the Ogletown area on Monday, June 24th; and
12 WHEREAS, residents in the town of Bear reported multiple sightings of this black bear on Tuesday, June 25th; and
13 WHEREAS, at 11pm on June 25th the black bear was tragically struck and killed by a vehicle on Route 1; and
14 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives is relieved that there were no injuries to the vehicle's occupants; and
15 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives mourns the loss of this majestic creature; and
16 WHEREAS, it is imperative to protect drivers and wildlife on our roadways as much as possible; and
17 WHEREAS, in 2023 the General Assembly passed a series of legislative initiatives to improve the safety of
18 Delaware's roads; and
19 WHEREAS, it is the continuing mission of the House of Representatives to improve road safety and protect our
20 wildlife; and
21 WHEREAS, it is important that we ensure wildlife is safe and that as we encroach on wildlife habitats that we are
22 taking the necessary steps to protect nature and create a harmonious coexistence.
23 NOW, THEREFORE:

24 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware that
25 we encourage drivers to be vigilant and to keep an eye out for wildlife while driving.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives encourages developers, State agencies, and our
27 State's residents to consider nature and the wildlife within when moving forward with development projects throughout our
28 State.

SYNOPSIS

This House Resolution mourns the loss of Delabear and encourages all drivers to be vigilant while driving to keep an eye out for wildlife.