

**Proposed Resolution for the Creation of a NLG chapter for
the State of New Jersey: "NJ-NLG", 2006**

WHEREAS, because no specific chapter exists for members of the State of New Jersey, the State is currently split in half—with the southern portion of New Jersey expected to migrate to Philadelphia and become an active part of the Philadelphia chapter, and the northern portion of New Jersey expected to do the same in New York City. There is complete lack of communication, organization, and network between and among New Jersey members. After graduation from law school, many New Jersey lawyers cease to remain active in the NLG for this reason;

WHEREAS, having the State in two different chapters (Philadelphia and New York City) also means having the State in two different *regions*. Both the Mid-Atlantic Region and the Northeast Region often do not know how to address New Jersey concerns because both are unsure of their roles. Often, law students live in one region but attend school just a few miles north, in a different region;

WHEREAS, these two distinct chapters and regions for New Jersey also mean that the two campuses of the public law school, Rutgers University, are divided. Statewide concerns are very difficult to address in an efficient way when the networking between the two schools and other attorneys is lacking;

WHEREAS, membership to the National Lawyers Guild would be increased and an active presence in the State of New Jersey would be feasible and longstanding if there were one chapter consisting of the entire State of New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NEC implement this Resolution insofar as it will approve and recognize a new chapter consisting of the entire State of New Jersey, abbreviated as NJ-NLG, inclusive of lawyers, law students, legal workers, jailhouse

lawyers, and any and all other people eligible for membership as defined by the constitution of the National Lawyers Guild; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Article 2.2 of the constitution of the National Lawyers Guild, law students attending Rutgers University School of Law-Newark, Rutgers University School of Law-Camden, and Seton Hall University School of Law will be concurrent members of their school chapters and full voting members of NJ-NLG; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the newly recognized NJ-NLG chapter will become part of the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Submitted by:

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Comments from affected chapters and regions:

1. I am writing the following as one of two Co-Regional Vice Presidents of the Northeast Region. I have not yet been able to communicate with my Co-VP, Elizabeth Fink of New York City, but I wanted to express my support of this resolution.

In general, I applaud the creation of new chapters, and have found that when one or more members take the initiative to create a chapter, the chapter will benefit from that energy and initiative. I therefore support Ms. Gertz and Mr. Marain in their resolution regarding the creation of a New Jersey Chapter. I also support the part of their resolution that requests that the New Jersey chapter become part of the Mid-Atlantic Region. There are clearly geographical reasons for this, including the proximity to DC and Philadelphia, the activist centers of the Mid-Atlantic Region. Granted, New York City borders New Jersey, and is a part of the Northeast Region. However, although NYC is one activist center of the Northeast Region, the activist centers of the Region are diffuse, including NYC, Boston, CT, Maine and, at varying times, other towns and subregions in the Northeast. Lastly, and no less important, there are simply no reasons to split a geopolitical entity into two regions.

Therefore, as one of two Co-Regional Vice Presidents of the Northeast Region, I am pleased to support the Resolution regarding Creation of a New Jersey Chapter and will join as a co-submitter.

Lynne A. Williams, Esq.
Northeast Regional Co-VP
Chair, Maine Chapter
Bar Harbor, ME

2. The NYC Chapter EC officers support the forming of a NJ Chapter and would be happy to sign on as a submitter, if needed.

Although, if eight or more members are required to form a Chapter there may be a slight problem. The NYC Chapter records list 25 NLG Rutgers students as of Jan. 06, (from the N.O. list) but the overwhelming majority of these members have either never paid dues, or have lapsed in their dues. Our current member list includes eleven NJ members, with only five members current in their dues to date.

I think this can be solved by simply paying dues!

Susan Howard
NYC Chapter Coordinator
National Lawyers Guild

3. Supports: Ed Elder, Co-RVP Mid-Atlantic Region