

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 370

WHEREAS, Chuck Haytaian, a former Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly, was born Garabed Haytaian on January 28, 1938, in New York City, New York; and

WHEREAS, the son of survivors of the Armenian genocide, Zakia and David Haytaian, Speaker Haytaian grew up in the Bronx and graduated from Public School Number 83 and Christopher Columbus High School; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Haytaian studied engineering at City College of New York, and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Alabama in 1961; and

WHEREAS, prior to embarking on his storied political career, Speaker Haytaian worked as an electrical engineer at Grumman Aerospace in Long Island, working on the Lunar Excursion Module; operated a dry-cleaning business in Hackettstown, New Jersey; and served as a marketing executive for several companies; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Haytaian began his career in politics in 1972 with his election to the Mansfield Township Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, in 1975 Speaker Haytaian was elected Warren County Freeholder, a position that he held from 1976 until 1981; and

WHEREAS, as Warren County Freeholder, Speaker Haytaian championed the creation of Warren County Community College; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 Speaker Haytaian was elected to serve in the New Jersey General Assembly, where he represented the 24th Legislative District from 1982 to 1992 and the 23rd Legislative District from 1992 to 1996; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Haytaian served as the Speaker of the General Assembly from 1992 through 1996; and

WHEREAS, in 1994 Speaker Haytaian was the Republican nominee for the United States Senate; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 Governor Christine Todd Whitman appointed Speaker Haytaian as New Jersey Republican State Chairman, a position he held for six years until 2001; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Haytaian worked on a number of important issues, including tax reform and making New Jersey one of the first states to mandate that its public schools teach the history of the Holocaust and other genocides, including the Armenian and Cambodian genocides; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Haytaian was a dedicated public servant, and a giant in New Jersey politics; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Haytaian was a loving husband to Joan, his wife of 48 years, who predeceased him in 2010, and he is survived by his brother John; his children, David, Debbie, and Darrell; and his six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Haytaian passed away on November 1, 2024, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, it is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of Speaker Haytaian, who will be deeply missed by his family, friends, former colleagues, and the people of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor the life, legacy, friendship, and many accomplishments of Speaker Haytaian, and to mark his passing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TAHESHA L. WAY, Acting Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours from Friday, November 8, 2024, through Sunday, November 10, 2024, in recognition and mourning of a dedicated legislator and public servant, Speaker Chuck Haytaian.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
7th day of November,
Two Thousand and Twenty-Four,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Forty-Ninth.

[seal]

/s/ Tahesha L. Way

Acting Governor

Attest:

/s/ Parimal Garg

Chief Counsel to the Governor