

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 2561

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Turner, Allen and Beach

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes public schools to serve to students certain produce grown in community garden.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on June 20, 2013.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/7/2013)

1 **AN ACT** concerning produce served in schools and supplementing
2 chapter 33 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. As used in this section, “community garden” means
8 public or private land upon which individuals have the opportunity
9 to garden on pieces of land that they do not individually own.

10 b. Consistent with all other applicable laws, a school district
11 may serve to students fresh produce that has been grown in a
12 community garden, provided that:

13 (1) the soil in the community garden has been tested for
14 contaminants and is safe for growing food for student consumption;

15 (2) water sources used for the community garden have been
16 tested for contaminants and are safe for growing food for student
17 consumption;

18 (3) the produce has been handled, stored, transported, and
19 prepared safely and in accordance with applicable federal, State,
20 and local health and sanitation requirements; and

21 (4) such other criteria as determined by the Secretary of
22 Agriculture are met.

23 c. ¹A school district and its employees shall be immune from
24 any civil liability arising from good faith actions in the serving of
25 produce from a community garden in accordance with the
26 requirements of this act.

27 d.¹ The Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the State
28 Board of Education, shall promulgate regulations pursuant to the
29 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
30 seq.), necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

31

32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate floor amendments adopted June 20, 2013.