

SENATE, No. 3996

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 26, 2023

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB SMITH

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Directs DEP to establish leasing program for State-owned land to be used and managed as pollinator habitat.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the leasing of State-owned lands for use as
2 pollinator habitat and supplementing Title 13 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The Department of Environmental Protection, in
9 accordance with State leasing procedures, shall establish a leasing
10 program for any person, local government unit, nonprofit
11 organization, or other entity that the department determines is
12 qualified and appropriate, to lease, develop, use, and manage any
13 appropriate and suitable State-owned land as pollinator habitat.

14 b. The department shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative
15 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), in
16 consultation with the Department of Agriculture, rules and
17 regulations providing for:

18 (1) the identification of State-owned lands that are appropriate
19 and suitable as pollinator habitat;

20 (2) criteria for the selection of appropriate entities to lease,
21 develop, use, and manage State-owned land as pollinator habitat;
22 and

23 (3) any other requirements as the department determines are
24 necessary to implement this act.

25 c. As used in this section:

26 "Department" means the Department of Environmental
27 Protection.

28 "Local government unit" means a county, a municipality, or any
29 board, commission, committee, authority or agency thereof that is
30 subject to the provisions of the "Local Public Contracts Law,"
31 P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.), including a housing authority
32 or redevelopment agency created or continued under the "Local
33 Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-
34 1 et seq.).

35 "Pollinator habitat" means an area of land developed and
36 managed as habitat beneficial for the feeding, nesting, and
37 reproduction of pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, and
38 hummingbirds, as determined by the Department of Environmental
39 Protection in consultation with the Department of Agriculture.

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41 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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46 This bill directs the Department of Environmental Protection
47 (DEP) to establish a leasing program for the lease, development,
48 use, and management of appropriate and suitable State-owned land
49 as pollinator habitat by any person, local government unit, nonprofit

1 organization, or other entity that the DEP determines is qualified
2 and appropriate to manage State-owned land for this purpose.

3 The bill also directs the DEP, in consultation with the
4 Department of Agriculture, to adopt rules and regulations providing
5 for:

6 1) the identification of State-owned lands that are appropriate
7 and suitable for management as pollinator habitat; and

8 2) criteria for the selection of appropriate entities to lease,
9 develop, use, and manage State-owned land for this purpose.