

SENATE, No. 4561

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

Sponsored by:
Senator NILSA I. CRUZ-PEREZ
District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Provides exemption from State permit fees to owners of commercial farms rebuilding from natural disaster.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the payment of State permit fees under certain
2 circumstances and supplementing Title 4 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule, or
8 regulation to the contrary, commencing on the effective date of this
9 section, no State agency shall charge a fee to the owner of a
10 commercial farm, as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1983, c.31
11 (C.4:1C-3), for any permit, approval, or other authorization
12 necessary to repair any damage, including the reconstruction of any
13 building, sustained at the commercial farm due to a natural disaster.

14 b. To be eligible for the fee exemption provided pursuant to
15 subsection a. of this section, the owner of a commercial farm shall
16 demonstrate to the State agency, in a form and manner as
17 determined by the agency, that the permit, approval, or other
18 authorization is necessary to repair damage sustained due to a
19 natural disaster.

20 c. No later than 90 days after the effective date of this section,
21 each State agency shall publish a notice in the New Jersey Register,
22 and post in a prominent location on the agency's Internet website,
23 the form and manner for a commercial farm to apply for the fee
24 exemption provided pursuant to subsection a. of this section. Each
25 State agency shall also provide this information to the Secretary of
26 Agriculture and the Secretary of Agriculture shall compile the
27 information for distribution to commercial farmers following a
28 natural disaster.

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30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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35 This bill prohibits State agencies from charging a fee to the
36 owner of a commercial farm, as defined pursuant to section 3 of
37 P.L.1983, c.31 (C.4:1C-3), for any permit, approval, or other
38 authorization necessary to repair any damage, including the
39 reconstruction of any building, sustained at the commercial farm
40 due to a natural disaster.

41 To be eligible for the fee exemption provided by the bill, the
42 owner of a commercial farm would be required to demonstrate to
43 the State agency, in a form and manner as determined by the
44 agency, that the permit, approval, or other authorization is
45 necessary to repair damage sustained due to a natural disaster.

46 The bill would require, no later than 90 days after the bill is
47 enacted into law, each State agency to publish a notice in the New
48 Jersey Register, and post in a prominent location on the agency's

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1 Internet website, the form and manner for a commercial farm to
2 apply for the fee exemption provided by the bill. Lastly, the bill
3 would also require each State agency to provide this information to
4 the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Agriculture would
5 be required to compile the information for distribution to
6 commercial farmers following a natural disaster.