

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 111

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 15, 2026

Sponsored by:
Senator JOHN J. BURZICHELLI
District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Recognizes the scientific advancements made by the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory at Rutgers University.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** recognizing the scientific advancements
 2 made by the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory at Rutgers
 3 University.

4
 5 **WHEREAS**, In 1888, research on oysters as an agricultural product
 6 began at Rutgers University, thanks to the efforts of biologist Julius
 7 Nelson, the first director of the Oyster Investigation Laboratory,
 8 which is now known as the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory;
 9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, Harold Haskin became the director of the Oyster
 11 Laboratory in 1950, beginning a new era of shellfish research that
 12 included hard clams, surf clams, and, in 1960, the breeding of
 13 oysters; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory has been
 15 instrumental in the study and development of new oyster types for
 16 the benefit of aquatic environments and the aquaculture industry;
 17 and

18 **WHEREAS**, The oyster strains developed and bred by the Haskin
 19 Shellfish Research Laboratory have shown strong resistance to the
 20 MSX parasitic disease and moderate resistance to the Dermo
 21 disease; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Researchers at the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory
 23 invented a new type of triploid oyster; and

24 **WHEREAS**, The new triploid oyster developed by the Haskin Shellfish
 25 Research Laboratory is renowned for high quality summer meat, as
 26 well as for its sterility and the size and speed of its growth; and

27 **WHEREAS**, These triploid oysters now represent 30-50% of oysters
 28 produced in the United States and France, making them a staple
 29 within the aquaculture industry; and

30 **WHEREAS**, The Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory developed the
 31 Haskin NEH strain of oysters from the Northeastern oyster
 32 population, which shows improved survival rates in the
 33 Northeastern region; and

34 **WHEREAS**, The Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory developed the
 35 Haskin DBX strain of oysters from the Delaware Bay oyster
 36 population, which has a higher tolerance for the medium and low
 37 salinity regions of the lower Delaware Bay; and

38 **WHEREAS**, The scientific advancements made by the Haskin Shellfish
 39 Research Laboratory at Rutgers University have improved the
 40 quality of shellfish grown throughout the world, thereby
 41 strengthening the aquaculture industry and increasing the resilience
 42 of oysters in the face of ever-changing aquatic environments; now,
 43 therefore,

44
 45 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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 47 1. This House recognizes the scientific advancements made by
 48 the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory at Rutgers University for

1 the betterment of shellfish populations in New Jersey's waterways
2 and the strengthening of the shellfish aquaculture industry
3 throughout the world.

4

5 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of the
6 State, shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
7 President of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and to the
8 Director of the Haskin Shellfish Research Lab.

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STATEMENT

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13 This resolution recognizes the scientific advancements made by
14 the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory (laboratory) at Rutgers
15 University.

16 The laboratory has been instrumental in the study and
17 development of new oyster types for the benefit of aquatic
18 environments and the aquaculture industry. The oyster strains
19 developed and bred by the laboratory have shown strong to
20 moderate resistance to the MSX parasitic disease and Dermo
21 disease. Researchers at the laboratory invented a new type of
22 triploid oyster that is renowned for high quality summer meat, as
23 well as for its sterility and the size and speed of its growth. The
24 new triploid oysters now represent 30-50% of oysters produced in
25 the United States and France, making them a staple within the
26 aquaculture industry.

27 In addition, the laboratory developed the Haskin NEH strain of
28 oysters from the Northeastern oyster population, which shows
29 improved survival rates in the Northeastern region. The laboratory
30 also developed the Haskin DBX strain of oysters from the Delaware
31 Bay oyster population, which has a higher tolerance for the low
32 salinity regions of the lower Delaware Bay.