

# ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO ASSEMBLY, No. 4034

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 19, 2022

The Assembly Agriculture and Food Security Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4034, with committee amendments.

This bill, as amended, requires the minutes and any audio or video recordings of meetings of the State Board of Agriculture (the State Board) and the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) to be posted on the public bodies' websites to ensure transparency pursuant to the "Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act," which established requirements on public entities concerning the conduct of meetings.

The bill, as amended, requires the SADC to prominently post on the committee's website prior to the next scheduled meeting of the committee the minutes and any audio or video recording of the meeting after the 15-day period during which the Governor may review and veto any action taken by the SADC. The bill, as amended, requires the State Board to prepare a true copy of the minutes of every meeting of the State Board and post the minutes and any audio or video recording of the meeting the Department of Agriculture website, prior to the next scheduled meeting of the State Board.

Finally, the bill, as amended, also requires, no later than 90 days after the effective date of the bill, the posting of any unpublished minutes and audio or video recordings of meetings of the State Board of Agriculture and the SADC conducted prior to the effective date of the bill.

### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments make technical and clarifying amendments to the bill.