

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 216

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 2017

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER**

**District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman ERIC HOUGHTALING**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Assemblyman PARKER SPACE**

**District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Muoio, Assemblymen McKeon and Gusciora**

**SYNOPSIS**

Encourages NJ homeowners to plant native plants that support bee populations and create habitat for all pollinators.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/23/2017)**

AR216 DANCER, HOUGHTALING

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1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** encouraging homeowners to plant  
2 native plants that support bee populations and create habitat for  
3 pollinators.

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5 **WHEREAS**, Pollinator species, such as birds, bees, bats, and butterflies,  
6 are essential partners of farmers in producing much of the food  
7 supply throughout the United States and here in the Garden State;  
8 and

9 **WHEREAS**, The success of many of New Jersey's most popular and  
10 economically important crops, such as blueberries, apples,  
11 cranberries, cucumbers, squash, and pumpkins, is dependent upon  
12 pollinators; and

13 **WHEREAS**, The maintenance of healthy, biodiverse ecosystems  
14 depends upon the significant environmental benefits provided by  
15 pollinator species; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Pollination plays a vital role in the health of State and  
17 national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and  
18 wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational and  
19 economic development opportunities for communities; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Many New Jersey homeowners and residents enjoy the  
21 State's forests and grasslands, fishing and camping, and feeding  
22 their families with the State's most popular and important crops as  
23 well as gardening and beautifying their homes; and

24 **WHEREAS**, These outdoor activities go hand in hand with planting  
25 native plants to support bee populations and create habitat for all of  
26 the State's pollinators; and

27 **WHEREAS**, The Department of Environmental Protection, the  
28 Department of Agriculture, and nurseries and landscapers  
29 throughout the State have expertise concerning native plants that  
30 are beneficial for these purposes; and

31 **WHEREAS**, The benefits that native pollinator species provide to New  
32 Jersey, whether agricultural, environmental, recreational, or  
33 economic, have been documented through extensive research at  
34 Rutgers, the State University, and other institutions of higher  
35 learning; and

36 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper for the State of New  
37 Jersey to demonstrate its support for pollinators by encouraging  
38 homeowners in the State to plant pollinator-friendly native plants,  
39 and the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of  
40 Agriculture, and nurseries and landscapers to lend their assistance  
41 in these efforts; now, therefore,

42  
43 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New  
44 Jersey:

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46 1. This House respectfully encourages homeowners throughout  
47 the State to plant native plants that support bee populations and  
48 provide habitat for all kinds of pollinators.

1       2. This House respectfully requests the Department of  
2 Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture to  
3 work together with nurseries and landscapers in the State to develop  
4 lists of native plants that would be supportive of these efforts and to  
5 post these lists on the department websites, and encourages  
6 nurseries, landscapers, and other sources of plants to post these lists  
7 on their websites.

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9       3. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,  
10 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the  
11 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the Secretary of  
12 Agriculture, the New Jersey Nursery and Landscapers Association,  
13 and the governing body of each municipality in the State.

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STATEMENT

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18       This resolution encourages homeowners in the State to plant  
19 native plants that support bee populations and create habitat for all  
20 kinds of pollinators. It also respectfully requests the Department of  
21 Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture to  
22 work together with nurseries and landscapers in the State to develop  
23 lists of native plants that would be supportive of these efforts and to  
24 post these lists on the department websites, and encourages  
25 nurseries, landscapers, and other sources of plants to post these lists  
26 on their websites.