P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 34, approved February 7, 2019 Senate, No. 1057 (Second Reprint)

AN ACT concerning loans to vineyards and wineries and 1 2 supplementing P.L.1974, c.80 (C.34:1B-1 et seq.). 3 4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 5 of New Jersey: 6 7 1. As used in P.L. (C.) (pending before the , c. 8 Legislature as this bill): "Authority" shall have the same meaning as provided in section 3 9 10 of P.L.1974, c.80 (C.34:1B-3). "Department" means the Department of Agriculture established 11 12 pursuant to R.S.4:1-1. "Qualified capital expense" means all expenditures made by an 13 14 eligible vineyard or winery for land acquisition or improvement, infrastructure acquisition or modernization, and the purchase or 15 16 modernization of machinery and equipment, including: 17 a. barrels; b. bins; 18 19 c. bottling equipment; 20 d. canopy management machines; 21 e. capsuling equipment; 22 f. chemicals; 23 g. corkers; 24 h. crushers; i. deer control fencing; 25 26 j. destemmers; 27 k. fermenters or other recognized fermentation devices; 28 1. fertilizer and soil amendments; 29 m. filters; n. fruit harvesters; 30 31 o. fruit plants; 32 p. hoses; 33 q. irrigation equipment; 34 r. labeling equipment; 35 s. lugs; 36 t. mowers; 37 u. poles; 38 v. posts;

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter. Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows: ¹Senate SEG committee amendments adopted January 25, 2018. ²Senate amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations September 27, 2018.

1 w. presses; 2 x. pruning equipment; 3 y. pumps; z. refractometers; 4 5 aa. refrigeration equipment; bb. seeders; 6 7 cc. soil; 8 dd. small tools; 9 ee. tanks; 10 ff. tractors; 11 gg. vats; 12 hh. weeding and spraying equipment; 13 ii. wine tanks; jj. wire; and 14 15 kk. any other items as approved by the authority in consultation 16 with the department. 17 "Vineyard" means agricultural lands located in the State consisting of at least one contiguous acre dedicated to the growing of grapes or 18 19 other fruit that are used or are intended to be used in the production of 20 wine by a winery as well as any other plants or other improvements 21 located thereon. 22 "Winery" means a commercial farm where the owner or operator 23 of the commercial farm has been issued and is operating in compliance 24 with a plenary winery license or farm winery license pursuant to 25 R.S.33:1-10. 26 27 2. a. The New Jersey Economic Development Authority, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, shall maintain and 28 29 administer a loan program and application process for the purpose 30 of providing loans to eligible vineyards or wineries to pay for 31 qualified capital expenses. 32 ²[b. The authority, in consultation with the department, shall provide a loan to an eligible vineyard or winery to pay for qualified 33 capital expenses. A loan amount shall be no less than \$10,000 and 34 no greater than \$100,000 to each eligible vineyard or winery, bear a 35 rate of interest between three and five percent, and shall be 36 37 repayable over a term of up to 10 years, as determined by the authority and department. A vineyard or $\frac{1}{\text{winery}^1}$ that plans to use 38 39 funds from the prospective loan to acquire more real property in 40 order to expand its business shall be eligible for higher loan amounts with lower interest rates as determined by the authority 41 42 and department.]² ²[c.] <u>b.</u>² A loan to an eligible vineyard or winery authorized 43 44 under P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this 45 bill) shall be made pursuant to a loan agreement with the authority 46 and shall contain any terms and conditions considered appropriate 47 by the authority that are consistent with the purposes of P.L. 48 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The

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provisions of the loan agreement shall include, but not be limited to, a statement the proportional shares of ownership in eligible vineyard or winery, equipment usage and maintenance responsibilities, and loan repayment responsibilities for any loan proceeds received under the loan program.

²[d.] <u>c.</u>² The authority may, in its discretion, require an
eligible vineyard or winery that receives a loan authorized pursuant
to P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
to submit an annual audited financial statement to the authority in
order to ensure the continued viability of all vineyard or winery
operations.

²[e.] <u>d.</u>² The authority may, either through the adoption of rules and regulations, or through the terms of the loan agreement made pursuant to subsection c. of this section, establish terms governing the incidence of default by an eligible vineyard or winery that receives a loan under the program administered pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

3. The authority, in consultation with the department, may
adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative
Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be
necessary to effectuate the purposes of P.L., c. (C.)
(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

- 4. This act shall take effect immediately.
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30 Requires EDA, in consultation with Department of Agriculture,

to establish loan program for certain vineyard and winery capitalexpenses.