

ASSEMBLY, No. 2905

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman PARKER SPACE
District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Best Use of Ugly Produce Award Program.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning certain kinds of agricultural produce and
2 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:

6
7 1. a. The Department of Agriculture shall establish an award
8 program to be known as the “Best Use of Ugly Produce Award
9 Program.”

10 Under the program, the department shall recognize a person or
11 organization who proposes what is deemed to be the best use of
12 ugly produce or has successfully implemented such a use. The
13 department may give the award annually or at such other intervals
14 as the department determines appropriate for promoting the use of
15 ugly produce as much as possible.

16 b. The department shall establish an application procedure and
17 criteria and guidelines for the eligibility, nomination, and judging of
18 applications for the award.

19 c. The department shall post the name of the recipient of the
20 “Best Use of Ugly Produce Award” prominently on the
21 department's Internet website, and shall recognize the recipient
22 through the award of a certificate, a press announcement, or another
23 form of recognition deemed appropriate to highlight the
24 achievements of the recipient. The department may consult and
25 coordinate with other governmental entities and private, nonprofit,
26 or charitable associations, organizations, or businesses, such as
27 those in the agricultural, grocery, restaurant, food manufacturer,
28 food supply, food bank, food pantry, and healthcare sectors of the
29 food industry, in implementing the program and recognizing each
30 award recipient.

31 d. As used in this section, “ugly produce” means any fruit,
32 vegetable, or grain that is fresh, undamaged, and suitable for human
33 consumption, but does not meet industry-accepted standards for
34 cosmetic appearance.

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36 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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41 This bill would require the Department of Agriculture to
42 establish an award program to be known as the “Best Use of Ugly
43 Produce Award Program.” “Ugly produce” is defined in the bill, as
44 amended, as any fruit, vegetable, or grain that is fresh, undamaged,
45 and suitable for human consumption, but does not meet industry-
46 accepted standards for cosmetic appearance.

47 Under the program, the department would recognize a person or
48 organization who proposes what is deemed to be the best use of

1 “ugly produce” or has successfully implemented such a use. The
2 department may give the award annually or at such other intervals
3 as the department determines appropriate for promoting the use of
4 “ugly produce” as much as possible. The department would
5 establish the application procedure and criteria and guidelines for
6 the eligibility, nomination, and judging of applications for the
7 award.

8 The department also would be required to post the name of the
9 recipient of the “Best Use of Ugly Produce Award” prominently on
10 the department's Internet website, and recognize the recipient
11 through the award of a certificate, a press announcement, or another
12 form of recognition deemed appropriate to highlight the
13 achievements of the recipient. Under the bill the department may
14 consult and coordinate with other governmental entities and private,
15 nonprofit, or charitable associations, organizations, or businesses,
16 such as those in the agricultural, grocery, restaurant, food
17 manufacturer, food supply, food bank, food pantry, and healthcare
18 sectors of the food industry, in implementing the program and
19 recognizing each award recipient.