

[Second Reprint]  
**SENATE, No. 2714**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JULY 22, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator PAUL A. SARLO**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO**

**District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

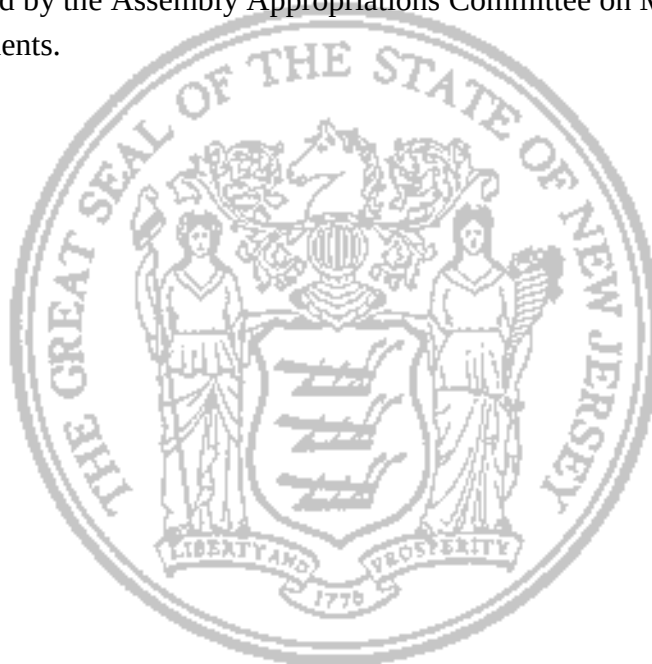
**Senator Oroho**

**SYNOPSIS**

Authorizes special occasion events at certain farms on preserved farmland, under certain conditions.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on March 17, 2021, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/30/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning special occasion events on preserved farmland  
2 and supplementing Title 4 of the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 <sup>2</sup>1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. Over 2,600 farms comprising over 236,00 acres of farmland  
9 have been preserved in New Jersey since the inception of the State's  
10 farmland preservation program;

11 b. the original intent of the farmland preservation program was  
12 to prevent suburban sprawl and the conversion of agriculturally  
13 suitable land to other purposes, and to keep agriculture as an  
14 economically attractive business in the State;

15 c. agriculture should be viewed as simultaneously a land use  
16 and a business enterprise, and preservation of farmland is not meant  
17 to prevent farmers from marketing products or engaging in practices  
18 that enhance long-term viability of the farm;

19 d. keeping agriculture as a sustainable industry in the State  
20 ensures residents have continued access to fresh food with low  
21 environmental impact;

22 e. the growing interest in agritourism, i.e., activities that attract  
23 the public to working farms for enjoyment or education of visitors  
24 and generate supplementary income for the farmer, has provided  
25 farmers with supplemental revenue and enhanced opportunities to  
26 market the State's agricultural and horticultural products;

27 f. with proper oversight, special occasion events on preserved  
28 farmland can have minimal impact on land's viability for farming  
29 and provide for new business opportunities for farmers in the State  
30 without displacing agricultural or horticultural production as the  
31 first priority use of preserved farmland or disrupting neighborhoods  
32 that surround preserved farms.<sup>2</sup>

33  
34 <sup>2</sup>**[1.] 2.**<sup>2</sup> As used in this act:

35 "Board" means a county agriculture development board  
36 established pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1983, c.32 (C.4:1C-14).

37 "Commercial farm" means <sup>2</sup>**[the same as that term is defined in**  
38 **section 3 of P.L.1983, c.31 (C.4:1C-3)]** (1) a farm management unit  
39 of no less than five acres producing agricultural or horticultural  
40 products worth \$2,500 or more annually, and satisfying the  
41 eligibility criteria for differential property taxation pursuant to the  
42 "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-  
43 23.1 et seq.), (2) a farm management unit less than five acres,  
44 producing agricultural or horticultural products worth \$50,000 or

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 thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted July 28, 2020.

<sup>2</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted March 17, 2021.

1 more annually and otherwise satisfying the eligibility criteria for  
2 differential property taxation pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment  
3 Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.), or (3) a farm  
4 management unit that is a beekeeping operation producing honey or  
5 other agricultural or horticultural apiary-related products, or  
6 providing crop pollination services, worth \$10,000 or more  
7 annually<sup>2</sup>.

8 "Committee" means the State Agriculture Development  
9 Committee established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.31  
10 (C.4:1C-4).

11 "Grantee" means the entity to which the development rights of a  
12 preserved farm were conveyed pursuant to the provisions of section  
13 24 of P.L.1983, c.32 (C.4:1C-31), section 5 of P.L.1988, c.4  
14 (C.4:1C-31.1), section 1 of P.L.1989, c.28 (C.4:1C-38), section 1 of  
15 P.L.1999, c.180 (C.4:1C-43.1), sections 37 through 40 of  
16 P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-37 through C.13:8C-40), or any other  
17 State law enacted for farmland preservation purposes. "Grantee"  
18 shall include all entities which lawfully succeed to the rights and  
19 responsibilities of a grantee, including, but not limited to, the  
20 grantee's successors and assigns.

21 "Occupied area" means any area supporting the activities and  
22 infrastructure associated with a special occasion event including,  
23 but not limited to: an area for parking, vendors, tables, equipment,  
24 infrastructure, or sanitary facilities; an existing building; or a  
25 temporary or portable structure.

26 "Preserved farmland" means <sup>1</sup>**【the same as that term is defined**  
27 **in section 1 of P.L.2014, c.16 (C.4:1C-32.7)】** land on which a  
28 development easement was conveyed to, or retained by, the State  
29 Agriculture Development Committee, a county agriculture  
30 development board, a county, a municipality, or a qualifying tax  
31 exempt nonprofit organization pursuant to the provisions of section  
32 24 of P.L.1983, c.32 (C.4:1C-31), section 5 of P.L.1988, c.4  
33 (C.4:1C-31.1), section 1 of P.L.1989, c.28 (C.4:1C-38), section 1 of  
34 P.L.1999, c.180 (C.4:1C-43.1), sections 37 through 40 of P.L.1999,  
35 c.152 (C.13:8C-37 through C.13:8C-40), or any other State law  
36 enacted for farmland preservation purposes<sup>1</sup>.

37 "Special occasion event" means a wedding, lifetime milestone  
38 event, or other cultural or social event conducted, in whole or in  
39 part, on preserved farmland on a commercial farm. "Special  
40 occasion event" shall not include:

41 (1) an activity which is eligible to receive right to farm benefits  
42 pursuant to the "Right to Farm Act," P.L.1983, c.31 (C.4:1C-1 et  
43 seq.);

44 (2) a recreational use permitted pursuant to a farmland  
45 preservation deed of easement; or

46 (3) a wedding held for:

1 (a) a spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling,  
2 niece, nephew, or cousin of the landowner of the commercial  
3 farm; or

4 (b) the operator or an employee of the commercial farm.

5  
6 <sup>2</sup>[2.] 3.<sup>2</sup> a. Notwithstanding any law, or any rule or regulation  
7 adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary, a person <sup>2</sup>[shall not]  
8 may<sup>2</sup> hold a special occasion event on preserved farmland  
9 <sup>2</sup>[without first obtaining approval therefor from the grantee  
10 pursuant to] , provided that the person complies with the reporting  
11 and approval requirements set forth in<sup>2</sup> section <sup>2</sup>[3] 4<sup>2</sup> of this act,  
12 and <sup>2</sup>[shall hold]<sup>2</sup> the special occasion event <sup>2</sup>is held<sup>2</sup> in  
13 compliance with the requirements of this section and the rules and  
14 regulations adopted by the committee pursuant to section <sup>2</sup>[6] 7<sup>2</sup> of  
15 this act. <sup>1</sup>[.]<sup>1</sup>

16 b. The owner or operator of a commercial farm located on  
17 preserved farmland that produces agricultural or horticultural  
18 products worth <sup>2</sup>[\$10,000] \$5,000<sup>2</sup> or more annually may hold  
19 special occasion events on the farm. The special occasion event  
20 shall comply with the following requirements:

21 (1) A special occasion event shall have a maximum duration of  
22 <sup>2</sup>[two] three<sup>2</sup> consecutive calendar days <sup>2</sup>if the event is marketed as  
23 a single event. An event shall be considered a single special  
24 occasion event, even if the event lasts for more than one day, if the  
25 event:

26 (a) is marketed as a single event;

27 (b) occurs only on consecutive days; and

28 (c) does not last for more than three days<sup>2</sup> .

29 (2) A special occasion event shall not interfere with the use of  
30 the preserved farmland for agricultural or horticultural production.  
31 The special occasion event shall have minimal effects on the  
32 occupied area, and shall be designed to protect the agricultural  
33 resources of the land and ensure that the land can be readily  
34 returned to productive agricultural or horticultural use after the  
35 event.

36 (3) A special occasion event that involves the service of  
37 alcoholic beverages shall comply with all applicable State and local  
38 laws, regulations, resolutions, and ordinances.

39 (4) All applicable State and local laws, regulations, resolutions,  
40 and ordinances including, but not limited to, those concerning food  
41 safety, litter, noise, solid waste, traffic, and the protection of public  
42 health and safety shall apply to the special occasion event and all  
43 activities related thereto.

44 (5) A special occasion event shall not cause a significant and  
45 direct negative impact to any surrounding properties.

46 (6) No new structures shall be constructed or erected on  
47 preserved farmland for the purpose of holding a special occasion

1 event, and improvements to existing structures shall be limited to  
2 the minimum required for the protection of public health and safety;

3 (7) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ No structure constructed fewer than five years prior to the  
4 date of an application pursuant to section 3 of this act to hold a  
5 special occasion event shall be used for the purpose of holding the  
6 special occasion event.

7 (8) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ No public utilities including <sup>1</sup>~~1~~, but not limited to, <sup>1</sup>~~1~~ water,  
8 gas, or sewer lines shall be extended to the preserved farmland for  
9 the purpose of holding special occasion events <sup>1</sup>, except that electric  
10 service may be extended to preserved farmland for the purpose of  
11 holding special occasion events<sup>1</sup>.

12 <sup>2</sup>~~1~~(9) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ The occupied area associated with a special occasion  
13 event shall be limited to the greater of:

14 (a) two and one-half acres, or

15 (b) five percent of the preserved farmland, up to a maximum of  
16 five acres.

17 <sup>2</sup>~~1~~(10) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ Any temporary structures, including an enclosed or  
18 open canopy or tent or other portable structure or facility, utilized  
19 for a special occasion event shall be erected only for the minimum  
20 amount of time reasonably necessary to accommodate the special  
21 occasion event.

22 <sup>2</sup>~~1~~(11) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ Parking at a special occasion event shall be  
23 provided through the use of existing parking areas on the farm and  
24 curtilage surrounding existing buildings to the extent possible.  
25 Additional on-site areas required to provide temporary parking shall  
26 comply with the standards for on-farm direct marketing facilities,  
27 activities, and events adopted by the committee pursuant to  
28 P.L.1983, c.31 (C.4:1C-1 et seq.).

29 c. (1) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ A special occasion event shall be conducted on a  
30 Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or federal or State holiday, except that a  
31 special occasion event may be conducted on another day with the  
32 approval of the committee. The committee may delegate this  
33 authority to a grantee.

34 (2) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ No commercial farm shall hold more than one special  
35 occasion event per calendar day.

36 <sup>2</sup>~~1~~(3) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ A commercial farm that produces agricultural or  
37 horticultural products worth between <sup>2</sup>~~1~~[\$10,000] <sup>2</sup>~~1~~\$5,000<sup>2</sup> and  
38 \$100,000 annually may hold up to a maximum of <sup>2</sup>~~15~~ <sup>2</sup>~~30~~<sup>2</sup> special  
39 occasion events per calendar year, of which <sup>2</sup>~~two~~ <sup>2</sup>~~four~~<sup>2</sup> may have  
40 250 guests or more in attendance at any time during the event.

41 <sup>2</sup>~~1~~(4) <sup>2</sup>~~1~~ A commercial farm that produces agricultural or  
42 horticultural products worth \$100,000 or more annually may hold  
43 up to a maximum of <sup>2</sup>~~26~~ <sup>2</sup>~~52~~<sup>2</sup> special occasion events per calendar  
44 year, of which <sup>2</sup>~~six~~ <sup>2</sup>~~12~~<sup>2</sup> may have 250 guests or more in  
45 attendance at any time during the event.

1 d. A retail food establishment other than a temporary retail  
2 food establishment, as those terms are defined in the State Sanitary  
3 Code adopted pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1947, c.177 (C.26:1A-7),  
4 shall not operate on a commercial farm in support of a special  
5 occasion event.

6 e. Notwithstanding any law, or any rule or regulation adopted  
7 pursuant thereto, to the contrary, a special occasion event during  
8 which fewer than 250 people will be in attendance as guests at any  
9 time may be held without a variance or site plan approval.

10 <sup>2</sup>f. Nothing in this act, or the rules and regulations adopted by  
11 the committee pursuant to section 7 of this act, shall apply to any  
12 special occasion event held on land that is not on preserved  
13 farmland.<sup>2</sup>

14  
15 <sup>2</sup>[3.] <sup>4.</sup><sup>2</sup> a. No person shall hold a special occasion event  
16 <sup>2</sup>during which 250 guests or more will be in attendance at any time  
17 during the event<sup>2</sup> on preserved farmland pursuant to this act unless  
18 the owner or operator of the commercial farm applies to the grantee  
19 for approval pursuant to this section <sup>1</sup>; except that if the grantee is  
20 the owner of the preserved farmland, the application shall be made  
21 to the committee for approval<sup>1 2</sup>. An owner or operator shall not be  
22 required to apply to the grantee for approval for a special occasion  
23 event during which fewer than 250 people will be in attendance as  
24 guests at any time, provided that the owner or operator complies  
25 with the requirements of paragraph (1) of subsection b. and  
26 subsection d. of this section.<sup>2</sup>

27 A grantee whose approval is required for a special occasion  
28 event <sup>2</sup>[to be held on preserved farmland] during which 250 guests  
29 or more in attendance at any time during the event<sup>2</sup> shall develop an  
30 application process by which an owner or operator of a commercial  
31 farm located on preserved farmland may apply for approval. The  
32 application shall, at a minimum, allow the grantee <sup>1</sup>, or committee,  
33 as applicable,<sup>1</sup> to determine:

34 (1) the annual value of agricultural or horticultural products  
35 produced by the commercial farm;

36 (2) the number of special occasion events held on the  
37 commercial farm during the calendar year;

38 (3) the maximum attendance of the special occasion event;

39 (4) the acreage of the occupied area, as delineated on a map or  
40 aerial photograph, to be used for the special occasion event; and

41 (5) whether the farm is in compliance with its farmland  
42 preservation deed of easement <sup>1</sup>[;] <sup>1</sup>.

43 <sup>2</sup>To the maximum extent possible, the application process shall  
44 allow an owner or operator to submit readily available existing data  
45 or documentation.<sup>2</sup>

1       b. <sup>2</sup>(1)<sup>2</sup> Upon request of the grantee, <sup>1</sup>or committee, as  
2 applicable,<sup>1</sup> the owner or operator of the commercial farm shall  
3 provide evidence that a proposed special occasion event on  
4 preserved farmland will be in compliance with State and local laws  
5 as required in paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection b. of section  
6 <sup>2</sup>[2] <sup>3</sup><sup>2</sup> of this act.

7       <sup>2</sup>(2)<sup>2</sup> The grantee <sup>1</sup>, or committee, as applicable,<sup>1</sup> may condition  
8 its approval upon receipt of evidence from the municipality, county,  
9 or applicable State agency that the event will comply with the  
10 provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection b. of section <sup>2</sup>[2]  
11 <sup>3</sup><sup>2</sup> of this act.

12       c. The grantee <sup>1</sup>, or committee, as applicable,<sup>1</sup> may approve an  
13 application <sup>2</sup>for a special occasion event during which 250 guests or  
14 more will be in attendance at any time during the event<sup>2</sup> made  
15 pursuant to this section upon a finding that the special occasion  
16 events on the preserved farmland that are the subject of the  
17 application are in compliance with the requirements of this act and  
18 any rules and regulations adopted by the committee to implement  
19 this act. <sup>1</sup>The grantee shall forward a copy of its approval to the  
20 committee and to the board in the county in which the preserved  
21 farmland is located.<sup>1</sup>

22       d. An applicant shall annually certify to the grantee, <sup>1</sup>or  
23 committee, as applicable,<sup>1</sup> in a form and manner to be prescribed by  
24 the grantee, <sup>1</sup>or committee, as applicable,<sup>1</sup> information about <sup>2</sup>[the]  
25 all<sup>2</sup> special occasion events held in the prior calendar year <sup>2</sup>[that  
26 were approved pursuant to this section]<sup>2</sup>, including, but not limited  
27 to, the date, occasion, and approximate number of attendees of each  
28 event. The grantee shall forward a copy of the certification to the  
29 committee <sup>1</sup>[and the applicable board]<sup>1</sup>.

30       <sup>1</sup>e. Upon the effective date of this act, and prior to the adoption  
31 by the committee of rules and regulations pursuant to section <sup>2</sup>[6]  
32 7<sup>2</sup> of this act, a grantee, or the committee, as applicable, may accept  
33 applications pursuant to this section and approve applications for  
34 special occasion events that comply with the provisions of this act.  
35 Upon the adoption of rules and regulations pursuant to section <sup>2</sup>[6]  
36 7<sup>2</sup> of this act, approvals pursuant to this section shall also comply  
37 with the rules and regulations adopted by the committee.<sup>1</sup>

38  
39       <sup>2</sup>[4.] <sup>5.</sup><sup>2</sup> a. The committee and the <sup>1</sup>[appropriate board]  
40 grantee<sup>1</sup> have the right, without advance notice, to inspect a  
41 preserved farm <sup>2</sup>[that has received approval from the grantee to  
42 hold one or more] on which<sup>2</sup> special occasion events <sup>2</sup>are held<sup>2</sup>,  
43 upon presentation of appropriate credentials during normal business  
44 hours <sup>1</sup>or during a special occasion event<sup>1</sup>, in order to determine  
45 compliance with the provisions of this act.

1       b. The committee or the <sup>1</sup>‘[appropriate board] grantee<sup>1</sup>’ may,  
2 upon reasonable cause, order and specify the scope of an audit of  
3 the owner or operator of a commercial farm engaged in conducting  
4 special occasion events on preserved farmland for the purpose of  
5 determining compliance with this act. The audit shall be conducted  
6 by an independent certified public accountant approved by <sup>1</sup>‘[the  
7 board or]’ the committee, and the reasonable costs thereof shall be  
8 paid by the owner or operator of the commercial farm. <sup>1</sup>‘[A county  
9 agriculture development board, or the] The<sup>1</sup> committee<sup>1</sup>[,]’ may  
10 establish a list of independent certified public accountants approved  
11 for the purposes of conducting an audit pursuant to this  
12 <sup>1</sup>‘[paragraph] subsection<sup>1</sup>’. Copies of the audit shall be submitted to  
13 the <sup>1</sup>‘[applicable board] grantee<sup>1</sup>’, the committee, and the owner or  
14 operator of the commercial farm.

15       c. An owner or operator of a commercial farm engaged in  
16 conducting special occasion events on preserved farmland shall not  
17 be subjected to an audit authorized pursuant to this section more  
18 than once per year without good cause demonstrated by the  
19 <sup>1</sup>‘[applicable board] grantee<sup>1</sup>’ or the committee.

20

21       <sup>2</sup>‘[5.] 6.’ a. An owner or operator of a commercial farm who  
22 violates the provisions of this act shall be liable to a civil  
23 administrative penalty of up to <sup>2</sup>‘[\$2,500] \$250<sup>2</sup>’ for the first  
24 offense, up to <sup>2</sup>‘[\$10,000] \$500<sup>2</sup>’ for the second offense, or up to  
25 <sup>2</sup>‘[\$25,000] \$1,000<sup>2</sup>’ for a third and subsequent offense. Each day in  
26 which a violation occurs shall be considered a separate offense.

27       b. In addition to the penalties established pursuant to subsection  
28 a. of this section:

29       (1) for a second offense, the committee shall suspend the owner  
30 or operator of the commercial farm from holding special occasion  
31 events for a period of up to six months;

32       (2) for a third offense, the committee shall suspend the owner  
33 or operator of the commercial farm from holding special occasion  
34 events for a period of six months up to one year; and

35       (3) for a fourth or subsequent offense, the committee shall  
36 suspend the owner or operator of the commercial farm from holding  
37 special occasion events for a period of at least one year, or may  
38 permanently suspend the owner or operator of the commercial farm  
39 from holding special occasion events.

40       c. No civil administrative penalty <sup>2</sup>pursuant to subsection a. of  
41 this section<sup>2</sup> or penalty established in subsection b. of this section  
42 shall be imposed pursuant to this section until after the owner or  
43 operator <sup>2</sup>of the commercial farm<sup>2</sup> has been notified of the alleged  
44 violation by certified mail or personal service. The notice shall  
45 include:

1 (1) a reference to the section of the statute, regulation, order <sup>2</sup><sub>1</sub><sup>2</sup>  
2 or <sup>2</sup>**["permit"]**<sup>2</sup> condition alleged to have been violated;

3 (2) a concise statement of the facts alleged to constitute a  
4 violation;

5 (3) a statement of the amount of the civil administrative penalty  
6 that may be imposed and the duration of the suspension that may be  
7 imposed, if any; and

8 (4) a statement of the right of the owner or operator to a hearing.

9 The owner or operator served with the notice shall have 20 days  
10 after the receipt of the notice to request in writing a hearing before  
11 the committee. After the hearing, if the committee finds that a  
12 violation has occurred, the committee may issue a final order  
13 assessing the amount of the civil administrative penalty set forth in  
14 the notice and imposing the suspension, if any. If no hearing is  
15 requested, then the notice shall become a final order 20 days after  
16 the date upon which the notice was served. Payment of the civil  
17 administrative penalty shall be due, and duration of the suspension,  
18 if any, shall begin, on the date when a final order is issued or the  
19 notice becomes a final order.

20 <sup>2</sup>A civil administrative penalty imposed pursuant to this section  
21 may be collected, with costs, in a summary proceeding pursuant to  
22 the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-  
23 10 et seq.). The Superior Court and the municipal court shall have  
24 jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of the "Penalty Enforcement  
25 Law of 1999" in connection with this act.<sup>2</sup>

26 d. The committee shall notify, in writing, the <sup>1</sup>**["appropriate"]**<sup>1</sup>  
27 board <sup>1</sup>in the county in which the preserved farmland is located<sup>1</sup>  
28 and the applicable grantee when it suspends an owner or operator of  
29 a commercial farm from holding special occasion events pursuant to  
30 subsection b. of this section.

31  
32 <sup>2</sup>**["6.] 7.**<sup>2</sup> The committee shall adopt, pursuant to the  
33 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
34 seq.), rules and regulations to implement this act, including any  
35 rules and regulations necessary to determine compliance with the  
36 requirements of section <sup>2</sup>**["2"] 3**<sup>2</sup> of this act.

37  
38 <sup>2</sup>**["7.] 8.**<sup>2</sup> a. The committee shall prepare a report annually on  
39 the implementation of this act, and shall submit the report to the  
40 Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of  
41 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1).

42 b. The report shall include:

43 (1) the number of preserved farms <sup>2</sup>on which special events are  
44 held and the number of preserved farms<sup>2</sup> for which approvals to  
45 hold special occasion events <sup>2</sup>during which 250 guests or more will  
46 be in attendance at any time during the event<sup>2</sup> have been issued by  
47 grantees;

- 1       (2) the frequency, type, and size of special occasion events held;
- 2       (3) the extent to which municipalities <sup>1</sup>~~and~~ <sup>1</sup> county
- 3 agriculture development boards <sup>1</sup>, and qualifying tax exempt
- 4 nonprofit organizations that hold a development easement on
- 5 preserved farmland<sup>1</sup> report problems associated with the holding of
- 6 special occasion events;
- 7       (4) the number of audits that have been conducted pursuant to
- 8 section <sup>2</sup>~~4~~ 5<sup>2</sup> of this act; and
- 9       (5) an accounting of penalties collected pursuant to section <sup>2</sup>~~5~~
- 10 6<sup>2</sup> of this act.
- 11
- 12       <sup>2</sup>~~8.1~~ 9<sup>2</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.