P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 104, approved May 10, 2019 Senate, No. 1729 (First Reprint)

1	AN ACT designating Streptomyces griseus as the New Jersey State
2	Microbe ¹ [,] ¹ and supplementing chapter 9A of Title 52 of the
3	Revised Statutes.
4	
5	WHEREAS, Streptomyces griseus is a soil-based microorganism that
6	was first discovered in ¹ New Jersey in ¹ 1916 by Dr. Selman
7	Waksman and Dr. Roland Curtis; and
8	WHEREAS, Soon after its discovery, the microbe drew international
9	acclaim for its groundbreaking use as an antibiotic; and
10	WHEREAS, In 1943, a research team from Rutgers University, led by
11	¹ [Dr. Albert Schatz and] ¹ Dr. ¹ [Selman] ¹ Waksman ¹ with Albert
12	Schatz and Elizabeth Bugie ¹ , used Streptomyces griseus to create
13	streptomycin, the world's first antibiotic for tuberculosis; and
14	WHEREAS, The original discovery paper for streptomycin, entitled
15	"Streptomycin, a Substance Exhibiting Antibiotic Activity Against
16	Gram-Positive and Gram-Negative Bacteria," was co-authored by
17	Dr. Waksman, Dr. Schatz, and Elizabeth Bugie, and published in
18	the Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and
19	Medicine; and
20	WHEREAS, After clinical trials showed that streptomycin cured ailing
21	tuberculosis patients, Merck & Company, a New Jersey-based
22	pharmaceutical company, quickly made the drug available to the
23	public; and
24	WHEREAS, Prior to this discovery, tuberculosis was one of the
25	deadliest diseases in human history and the second leading cause of
26	death in the United States; and
27	WHEREAS, Within ¹ [ten] <u>10</u> ¹ years of streptomycin's release,
28	tuberculosis mortality rates in the U.S. fell to a historic low, with
29	only 9.1 tuberculosis-related deaths per 100,000 people in 1955
30	compared to the rate of 194 deaths per 100,000 people in 1900; and
31	WHEREAS, According to a June 1947 New York Times article,
32	streptomycin had "become one of the two wonder drugs of
33	medicine" and offered the "promise to save more lives than were
34	lost in both World Wars"; and
35	WHEREAS, Dr. ¹ [Selman] ¹ Waksman was later awarded a Nobel
36	Prize for Medicine and Physiology in 1952 for his work in
37	discovering Streptomyces griseus, creating streptomycin, and

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.

curing tuberculosis; and

38

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

Assembly AST committee amendments adopted September 17, 2018.

S1729 [1R]

1	WHEREAS, Streptomyces griseus and streptomycin were two of the
2	most consequential discoveries in the fields of biology and
3	pharmacology during the twentieth century; and
4	WHEREAS, The unlocking of the antibiotic potential of Streptomyces
5	griseus is a testament to the hard work and tenacity that changed
6	the world; and
7	WHEREAS, Few people are aware of the enduring social value of
8	Schatz ¹ , Bugie, ¹ and Waksman's research, as penicillin has
9	overshadowed streptomycin as the twentieth century's greatest
10	antibiotic discovery; and
11	WHEREAS, It is altogether fitting and proper to renew the public's
12	awareness of this historic achievement, and New Jersey's role in
13	combating tuberculosis, by designating Streptomyces griseus as the
14	official microbe of the State of New Jersey; now, therefore,
15	
16	BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
17	of New Jersey:
18	
19	1. Streptomyces griseus is designated as the New Jersey State
20	Microbe.
21	
22	2. This act shall take effect immediately.
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	Designates Streptomyces griseus as New Jersey State Microbe.