[Second Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2920

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB SMITH

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman ANDREW ZWICKER

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Oroho, Assemblywoman Jasey, Assemblymen Wirths and Space

SYNOPSIS

Establishes funding allocations for constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for Fiscal Year 2020 and thereafter and revises law for State's open space, farmland, and historic preservation programs; appropriates \$500,000.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on March 18, 2019, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2019)

AN ACT concerning the ²[constitutional dedication of corporation 1 business tax revenues 1 the State's programs 2 for open space, 2 farmland, and historic preservation, ¹[and]¹ amending and 3 supplementing P.L.2016, c.12 ¹, amending P.L.1999, c.152, and 4

making an appropriation¹.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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- 1. (New section) a. In each State fiscal year commencing in State fiscal year 2020 and annually thereafter, of the amount credited by the State Treasurer to the Preserve New Jersey Fund Account pursuant to subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 4 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-46):
- (1) 62 percent shall be deposited into the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund;
- (2) 31 percent shall be deposited into the Preserve New Jersey Farmland Preservation Fund; and
- (3) seven percent shall be deposited into the Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund.
- b. (1) Beginning July 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the 21 22 Garden State Preservation Trust shall conduct a review of the 23 appropriations of constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys to, and 24 the expenditures thereof by, the Department of Environmental 25 Protection, the State Agriculture Development Committee, and the New Jersey Historic Trust for their respective programs ¹ [for the 26 27 fiscal year ending two years prior to the year in which the review is 28 occurring. If the Garden State Preservation Trust determines that 29 the department, committee, or New Jersey Historic Trust have not 30 expended or contractually obligated the constitutionally dedicated 31 CBT moneys allocated pursuant to subsection a. of this section for 32 the fiscal year ending two years prior to the year in which the 33 review is occurring, the trust may reallocate the amount of 34 constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys that have not been 35 expended or contractually obligated for that particular fiscal year by 36 the department, committee, or New Jersey Historic Trust, as 37 applicable.
 - (2) If, after the review required pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Garden State Preservation Trust determines it is appropriate, the trust, notwithstanding the provisions of section 6, 8, or 9 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48, 50, or 51) to the contrary, shall allocate for appropriation pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-55) the amount of unexpended, unobligated, or unappropriated constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys for the

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 enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows: ¹Senate SEN committee amendments adopted January 24, 2019.

²Senate SBA committee amendments adopted March 18, 2019.

fiscal year ending two years prior to the year in which the review is occurring, and shall determine, for that amount:

- (a) the appropriate funding allocations for the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund, the Preserve New Jersey Farmland Preservation Fund, or the Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund; and
- (b) how the allocations pursuant to subparagraph (a) of this paragraph shall be allocated for the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects, farmland preservation purposes, or historic preservation purposes. The trust shall make its determinations pursuant to this subparagraph based upon a demonstrated need for funding for the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects, farmland preservation purposes, or historic preservation purposes based upon available projects, applicant demand, and past appropriations and expenditures for these purposes.
 - (3) The trust shall hold a public hearing to solicit public input when making determinations pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection.
 - (4) The trust shall notify the department, the committee, the New Jersey Historic Trust, and the Department of the Treasury on the results of its review and determinations pursuant to this subsection. The trust shall also send written notification to the Chairperson of the Senate Environment and Energy Committee and the Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee, or their successors, of any determinations and allocations made pursuant to this subsection.
 - (5) A determination by the trust to reallocate constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys for a particular fiscal year based on the review and determination made pursuant to this subsection shall not affect the allocations set forth in subsection a. of this section for any subsequent fiscal year. I. In conducting this review, the trust shall: evaluate the demonstrated need for funding for the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects, farmland preservation purposes, or historic preservation purposes based upon available projects, applicant demand, and past appropriations and expenditures for these purposes; and hold a public hearing to solicit public input on appropriate funding allocations for the department, committee, and New Jersey Historic Trust, for the upcoming fiscal year.
 - (2) If the trust determines, based on the review conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection, that it would be appropriate to revise the allocations set forth in subsection a. of this section, or section 6, 8, or 9 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48, 50, or 51), the trust shall send a written notification to the Chairperson of the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, and the Assembly

- 1 Environment and Solid Waste Committee, or their successors, of its
- 2 findings and recommendations concerning future funding
- 3 <u>allocations for the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund, the</u>
- 4 <u>Preserve New Jersey Farmland Preservation Fund, or the Preserve</u>
- 5 New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund.
 - (3) A recommendation by the trust to reallocate constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys based on the review conducted pursuant to this subsection shall not alter the allocations set forth in subsection a. of this section or section 6, 8, or 9 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48, 50, or 51) for any fiscal year unless authorized by the Legislature.

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- ¹2. Section 3 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-45) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. As used in [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.):

"Acquisition" or "acquire" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).

16 17 "Blue Acres cost" means the expenses incurred in connection 18 with: all things deemed necessary or useful and convenient for the 19 acquisition by the State or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit 20 organization, for recreation and conservation purposes, of lands that 21 have been damaged by, or may be prone to incurring damage caused 22 by, storms or storm-related flooding, or that may buffer or protect 23 other lands from such damage; the execution of any agreements or 24 franchises deemed by the Department of Environmental Protection 25 to be necessary or useful and convenient in connection with any 26 Blue Acres project authorized by [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 27 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.); the procurement or provision of appraisal, archaeological, architectural, conservation, design, engineering, 28 29 financial, geological, historic research, hydrological, inspection, 30 legal, planning, relocation, surveying, or other professional advice, 31 estimates, reports, services, or studies; the purchase of title 32 insurance; the undertaking of feasibility studies; the demolition of 33 structures, the removal of debris, and the restoration of lands to a natural state or to a state useful for recreation and conservation 34 35 purposes; the establishment of a reserve fund or funds for working 36 capital, operating, maintenance, or replacement expenses as the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the 37 38 Department of the Treasury may determine; and reimbursement to 39 any fund of the State of moneys that may have been transferred or 40 advanced therefrom to any fund established by [this act] P.L.2016, 41 c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.), or any moneys that may have been expended therefrom for, or in connection with, [this act] P.L.2016, 42 43 c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

"Blue Acres project" means any project of the State or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization to acquire, for recreation and conservation purposes, lands that have been damaged by, or may be prone to incurring damage caused by, storms or

storm-related flooding, or that may buffer or protect other lands from such damage.

3 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Environmental 4 Protection.

5 "Committee" means the State Agriculture Development 6 Committee established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1983, c.31 7 (C.4:1C-4).

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"Constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys" means any moneys made available pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution deposited in the funds established pursuant to sections 6, 7, 8, and 9 of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48 through C.13:8C-51), and appropriated by law, for recreation and conservation, farmland preservation, or historic preservation purposes set forth in Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution or [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.)

"Convey" or "conveyance" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).

"Cost" means the expenses incurred in connection with: things deemed necessary or useful and convenient for the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, the acquisition of development easements or fee simple titles to farmland, or the preservation of historic properties, as the case may be; the execution of any agreements or franchises deemed by the Department of Environmental Protection, State Agriculture Development Committee, or New Jersey Historic Trust, as the case may be, to be necessary or useful and convenient in connection with any project funded in whole or in part using constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys; the procurement or provision of appraisal, archaeological, architectural, conservation, design, engineering, financial, geological, historic research, hydrological, inspection, legal, planning, relocation, surveying, or other professional advice, estimates, reports, services, or studies; the purchase of title insurance; the undertaking of feasibility studies; materials and labor costs for stewardship activities, but not overhead or administration costs for such activities; the establishment of a reserve fund or funds for working capital, operating, maintenance, or replacement expenses, as the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the Treasury may determine; and reimbursement to any fund of the State of moneys that may have been transferred or advanced therefrom to any fund established by [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.), or any moneys that may have been expended therefrom for, or in connection with, **[**this act P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

44 "Department" means the Department of Environmental 45 Protection.

"Development" or "develop" means, except as used in the definitions of "acquisition" and "development easement" in this

- 1 section, any improvement, including a stewardship activity, made to
- 2 a land or water area designed to expand and enhance its utilization
- 3 for recreation and conservation purposes, and shall include the
- 4 construction, renovation, or repair of any such improvement, but
- 5 shall not mean shore protection or beach nourishment or
- 6 replenishment activities.

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- "Development easement" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).
- 9 "Emergency intervention" means an immediate assessment or 10 capital improvement necessary to protect or stabilize the structural 11 integrity of a historic property.
- "Farmland" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).
- "Farmland preservation," "farmland preservation purposes," or "preservation of farmland" means the same as those terms are defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).
- "Garden State Preservation Trust" or "trust" means the Garden State Preservation Trust established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-4).
- 20 "Green Acres bond act" means: P.L.1961, c.46; P.L.1971, c.165;
- 21 P.L.1974, c.102; P.L.1978, c.118; P.L.1983, c.354; P.L.1987, c.265;
- 22 P.L.1989, c.183; P.L.1992, c.88; P.L.1995, c.204; P.L.2007, c.119;
- P.L.2009, c.117; and any State general obligation bond act that may
- be approved after the date of enactment of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12
- 25 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) for the purpose of providing funding for the
- 26 acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation
- 27 purposes or for farmland preservation purposes.
 - "Historic preservation," "historic preservation purposes," or "preservation of historic properties" means the same as those terms are defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3) and shall also include emergency intervention and the acquisition of a historic preservation easement.
 - "Historic preservation easement" means an interest in land, less than fee simple title thereto, that is purchased from a private or governmental property owner to permanently protect a historic property, and that is granted by the property owner to the New Jersey Historic Trust, a local government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization.
- "Historic property" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).
- "Land" or "lands" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).
- "Local government unit" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).
- "New Jersey Historic Trust" means the entity established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1967, c.124 (C.13:1B-15.111).
- "Permitted investments" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).

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"Preserve New Jersey Blue Acres Fund" means the Preserve New Jersey Blue Acres Fund established pursuant to section 7 of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-49).

"Preserve New Jersey Farmland Preservation Fund" means the Preserve New Jersey Farmland Preservation Fund established pursuant to section 8 of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-50).

"Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund" means the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund established pursuant to section 6 of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48).

"Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund" means the Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund established pursuant to section 9 of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-51).

"Preserve New Jersey Fund Account" means the Preserve New Jersey Fund Account established pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-46).

"Project" means all things deemed necessary or useful and convenient in connection with the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, the acquisition of development easements or fee simple titles to farmland, or the preservation of historic properties, as the case may be.

"Qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).

"Recreation and conservation purposes" means the same as that term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).

"Stewardship activity" means an activity, which is beyond routine operations and maintenance, undertaken by the State, a local government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization to repair, or restore lands acquired or developed for recreation and conservation purposes for the purpose of enhancing or protecting those lands for recreation and conservation purposes. For the purposes of the farmland preservation program, "stewardship activity" means an activity, which is beyond routine operation and maintenance, undertaken by the landowner, or a farmer operator as an agent of the landowner, to repair, restore, or improve lands preserved for farmland preservation purposes, including , but not limited to , soil and water conservation projects approved pursuant to section 17 of P.L.1983, c.32 (C.4:1C-24) and projects that improve the resiliency of farmland soils.¹

(cf: P.L.2016, c.12, s.3)

1[2.] 3.1 Section 6 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48) is amended 42 to read as follows:

6. a. The State Treasurer shall establish a fund to be known as the "Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund" and shall deposit into the fund all moneys received pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 5 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-47) paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 1 of P.L., c. (C.)

(pending before the Legislature as this bill), and any other moneys appropriated by law for deposit into the fund.

Moneys in the fund shall be invested in permitted investments or shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in those depositories as the State Treasurer may select, and may be invested and reinvested in permitted investments or as other trust funds in the custody of the State Treasurer in the manner provided by law. All interest or other income or earnings derived from the investment or reinvestment of moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys derived from the payment of principal and interest on the loans to local government units authorized by [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) shall also be held in the fund.

- b. Of the amount deposited **[**each State fiscal year **]** in State fiscal year 2017 through and including State fiscal year 2019 into the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 5 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-47):
- (1) 55 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost of acquisition and development of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes, and the amount provided pursuant to this paragraph shall be allocated as follows:
- (a) 50 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost of acquisition of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes; and
- (b) 50 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost of development of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes, and of the amount provided pursuant to this subparagraph:
- (i) up to 22 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost for stewardship activities undertaken on lands administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife in the department; and
- (ii) up to 22 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost for stewardship activities undertaken on lands administered by the Division of Parks and Forestry in the department;
- (2) 38 percent shall be allocated for the purposes of providing grants and loans to assist local government units to pay the cost of acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, and of this amount, up to [2] two percent shall be allocated for stewardship activities undertaken by local government units; and
- (3) **[7]** seven percent shall be allocated for the purposes of providing grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations to pay the cost of acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, and of this amount, 11 percent shall be allocated for stewardship activities undertaken by qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations.
- c. Any repayments of the principal and interest on loans issued to local government units for the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes using

- 1 constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys shall be deposited into the
- 2 Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund, and shall be specifically
- dedicated for the issuance of additional ¹grants and ¹ loans in the
- 4 same manner as provided in ¹[subsection] subsections a. and ¹ b. of
- 5 section 27 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-27) ¹ and this section ¹.
- d. (1) The moneys in the fund are specifically dedicated and shall be used for the same purposes and according to the same criteria and provisions as those set forth in section 26 of P.L.1999,
- 9 c.152 (C.13:8C-26), and as provided pursuant to P.L.2016, c.12
- 10 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) and **[**paragraph (3) of **]** this **[**subsection **]** 11 section.

- (2) Grants and loans issued to local government units and grants issued to qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations using constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys for the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes shall be subject to the same provisions as those prescribed in section 27 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-27), except as otherwise provided in section 10 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-52).
- (3) Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) or P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et seq.) to the contrary, projects of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission established pursuant to P.L.1980, c.104 (C.32:14-1.1 et seq.) for the acquisition or development of land for recreation and conservation purposes in New Jersey shall be considered State projects for the purposes of eligibility for funding pursuant to the provisions of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).
- e. Moneys in the fund shall not be expended except in accordance with appropriations from the fund made by law. Any act appropriating moneys from the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund shall identify any particular project or projects to be funded by the moneys, and any expenditure for a project for which the location is not identified by municipality and county in the appropriation shall require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee, or its successor, except as permitted otherwise in accordance with the same exceptions as those specified in paragraph (2) of subsection a. of section 23 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-23).
 - f. Unexpended moneys due to project withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings shall be returned to the fund.
- g. Of the amount authorized pursuant to this section, not more than five percent shall be utilized for organizational, administrative and other work and services, including salaries, equipment and materials necessary to administer the applicable provisions of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).
- h. To the end that municipalities may not suffer a loss of taxes by reason of the acquisition and ownership by the State of lands in fee simple for recreation and conservation purposes, or the

- acquisition and ownership by qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations of lands in fee simple for recreation and conservation purposes that become certified as exempt from property taxes pursuant to P.L.1974, c.167 (C.54:4-3.63 et seq.) or similar laws, the State shall make payments annually in the same manner as payments are made pursuant to section 29 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-29).
- 8 The State shall not use the power of eminent domain in any 9 manner for the acquisition of lands by the State for recreation and 10 conservation purposes using constitutionally dedicated CBT 11 moneys in whole or in part unless a concurrent resolution approving 12 that use is approved by both Houses of the Legislature; except that, 13 without the need for such a concurrent resolution, the State may use 14 the power of eminent domain to the extent necessary to establish a 15 value for lands to be acquired from a willing seller by the State for 16 recreation and conservation purposes using constitutionally 17 dedicated CBT moneys in whole or in part.
 - j. Of the amount deposited in each State fiscal year commencing in State fiscal year 2020 and annually thereafter into the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill):

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- (1) 60 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost of acquisition and development of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes, and the amount provided pursuant to this paragraph shall be allocated as follows:
- (a) ¹[50] 45¹ percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost of acquisition of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes, ¹[including] and of this amount, a minimum of 10 percent shall be allocated for ¹ Blue Acres projects; and
- (b) ¹[50] 55¹ percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost of development of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes, and of the amount provided pursuant to this subparagraph:
- (i) up to 22 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying the cost for stewardship activities undertaken on lands administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife in the department; and
- (ii) up to 22 percent shall be allocated for the purpose of paying
 the cost for stewardship activities undertaken on lands administered
 by the Division of Parks and Forestry in the department;
- 42 (2) ¹[34] 30¹ percent shall be allocated for the purposes of 43 providing grants and loans to assist local government units to pay 44 the cost of acquisition and development of lands for recreation and 45 conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects, and of this 46 amount, up to ¹[two] 10¹ percent shall be allocated for stewardship 47 activities undertaken by local government units; and

- 1 (3) ¹[six] 10¹ percent shall be allocated for the purposes of 2 providing grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit 3 organizations to pay the cost of acquisition and development of 4 lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue
- Acres projects, and of this amount, 11 percent shall be allocated for stewardship activities undertaken by qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations.
- k. (1) In addition to the purposes set forth in subsection d. of
 this section, moneys in the Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund
 may be applied for the purposes of providing moneys to:
- (a) meet the Blue Acres costs to the State for the acquisition of
 lands for a Blue Acres project; or
- (b) provide grants, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (2) of
 this subsection, to assist a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit
 organization in meeting the Blue Acres costs for the acquisition of
 lands for a Blue Acres project.
- 17 (2) A grant by the State for lands to be acquired by a qualifying
 18 tax exempt nonprofit organization for a Blue Acres project may
 19 include up to 50 percent of the Blue Acres cost of acquisition of the
 20 lands by the qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization.

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- (a) A qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization shall not use as its matching share of the Blue Acres cost of acquisition of lands for a Blue Acres project any constitutionally dedicated moneys, as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3), or any grant moneys obtained from a Green Acres bond act.
- (b) To qualify to receive a grant from the Preserve New Jersey
 Blue Acres Fund, the board of directors or governing body of the
 applying tax exempt nonprofit organization shall:
- 29 (i) demonstrate to the commissioner that the organization 30 qualifies as a charitable conservancy for the purposes of P.L.1979, 31 c.378 (C.13:8B-1 et seq.);
- (ii) demonstrate that the organization has the resources to match
 the grant requested;
- (iii) agree to make and keep the lands accessible to the public,
 unless the commissioner determines that public accessibility would
 be detrimental to the lands or any natural resources associated
 therewith;
- 38 <u>(iv) agree not to convey the lands except to the federal</u>
 39 <u>government, the State, a local government unit, or another</u>
 40 <u>qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization, for recreation and</u>
 41 <u>conservation purposes; and</u>
- 42 (v) agree to execute and donate to the State at no charge a
 43 conservation restriction pursuant to P.L.1979, c.378 (C.13:8B-1 et
 44 seq.) on the lands to be acquired with the grant.
- 1. In addition to any other reporting requirements required by
 law, the department shall annually send a written report to the
 Chairperson of the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, the
 Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, and the

- Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee, or their successors, identifying the projects funded with moneys pursuant to subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of subsection j. of this section. This report shall: (1) identify the project type, location, and cost for each development project; and (2) identify the stewardship activities, including the location and cost for each stewardship activity, undertaken on lands administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife and Division of Parks and Forestry pursuant to
- 9 <u>subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of subsection j. of this section.</u>
 10 (cf: P.L.2018, c.95, s.1)

- ¹[3.] <u>4.</u>¹ Section 8 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-50) is amended to read as follows:
- 8. a. The State Treasurer shall establish a fund to be known as the "Preserve New Jersey Farmland Preservation Fund" and shall deposit all moneys received pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section 5 of [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-47), paragraph (2) of subsection a. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), and any other moneys appropriated by law for deposit into the fund.

Moneys in the fund shall be invested in permitted investments or shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in those depositories as the State Treasurer may select, and may be invested and reinvested in permitted investments or as other trust funds in the custody of the State Treasurer in the manner provided by law. All interest or other income or earnings derived from the investment or reinvestment of moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

- b. (1) The moneys in the fund are specifically dedicated and shall be used for the same purposes as those set forth in section 37 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-37) and as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection.
- (2) Of the moneys deposited into the Preserve New Jersey Farmland Preservation Fund ¹ [each year,]: (a) in State fiscal year 2017 through and including State fiscal year 2019, ¹ up to [3] three percent shall be allocated by the committee on an annual basis for stewardship activities ¹; and (b) commencing in State fiscal year 2020 and annually thereafter, up to four percent shall be allocated by the committee on an annual basis for stewardship activities ¹.
- ²(3) Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) to the contrary, stewardship activities undertaken on farmland on which (a) the pinelands development credits have been acquired pursuant to P.L.1979, c.111 (C.13:18A-1 et seq.), and the pinelands comprehensive management plan adopted pursuant thereto, or the development rights have been acquired pursuant to a transfer of development rights program for the Highlands Region established pursuant to section 13 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-13), and (b) there is

- 1 deed restriction approved by the committee, shall be eligible for funding pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection.² 2
- c. Moneys in the fund shall not be expended except in 3 4 accordance with appropriations from the fund made by law. Any
- 5 act appropriating moneys from the Preserve New Jersey Farmland
- Preservation Fund shall identify any particular project or projects to 6 be funded by the moneys, and any expenditure for a project for
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- 8 which the location is not identified by municipality and county in
- 9 the appropriation shall require the approval of the Joint Budget
- 10 Oversight Committee, or its successor, except as permitted
- otherwise in accordance with the same exceptions as those specified 11
- in paragraph (2) of subsection b. of section 23 of P.L.1999, c.152 12
- 13 (C.13:8C-23).
- 14 d. Unexpended moneys due to project withdrawals, 15 cancellations, or cost savings shall be returned to the fund.
- (cf: P.L.2016, c.12, s.8) 16

law for deposit into the fund.

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- ¹[4.] <u>5.</u> Section 9 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-51) is amended 18 19 to read as follows:
- 20 9. a. The State Treasurer shall establish a fund to be known as 21 the "Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund" and shall 22 deposit all moneys received pursuant to paragraph (4) of subsection 23 a. of section 5 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-47) , paragraph (3) of 24 subsection a. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before 25 the Legislature as this bill), and any other moneys appropriated by
 - Moneys in the fund shall be invested in permitted investments or shall be held in interest-bearing accounts in those depositories as the State Treasurer may select, and may be invested and reinvested in permitted investments or as other trust funds in the custody of the State Treasurer in the manner provided by law. All interest or other income or earnings derived from the investment or reinvestment of moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund.
- 34 b. (1) The moneys in the fund are specifically dedicated and shall be used for ¹: 35
- (a) the same purposes as those set forth in section 41 of 36 37 P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-41) ¹[, [and] for];
- 38 (b) emergency intervention and the acquisition of historic preservation easements ¹[, and shall be allocated by the New Jersey 39 Historic Trust as provided in subsection e. of this section]; 40
- 41 (c) matching grants to the Department of Environmental 42 Protection to meet the cost of preservation of State-owned historic 43 properties; and
- 44 (d) the purposes as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this 45 subsection¹.
- 46 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-47 43 et seq.) or P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et seq.) to the contrary,

- 1 the Palisades Interstate Park Commission established pursuant to
- 2 P.L.1980, c.104 (C.32:14-1.1 et seq.) shall be eligible for grants
- 3 pursuant to the provisions of section 41 of P.L.1999, c.152
- 4 (C.13:8C-41) for projects located in New Jersey. A project by the
- 5 Palisades Interstate Park Commission for historic preservation
- 6 purposes shall be subject to the same criteria and conditions set
- 7 forth in section 41 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-41) applicable to a
- 8 project by a local government unit.
- 9 ¹(3) Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-
- 10 43 et seq.) or P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et seq.) to the contrary, an
- amount not to exceed \$500,000 may be appropriated from the 11
- 12 Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund to the New Jersey
- 13 Historic Trust for the purposes of establishing an electronic
- 14 database to track projects that receive funding for historic
- 15 preservation puposes.¹
- 16 c. Moneys in the fund shall not be expended except in
- accordance with appropriations from the fund made by law. Any 17
- act appropriating moneys from the Preserve New Jersey Historic 18
- 19 Preservation Fund shall identify any particular project or projects to
- 20 be funded by the moneys, and any expenditure for a project for
- 21 which the location is not identified by municipality and county in
- 22 the appropriation shall require the approval of the Joint Budget 23
 - Oversight Committee, or its successor.
- 24 d. Unexpended moneys due project withdrawals, to
- 25 cancellations, or cost savings shall be returned to the fund.
- 26 ¹[e. Of the amount deposited in each State fiscal year
- 27 commencing in State fiscal year 2020 and annually thereafter into
- the Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund pursuant to 28 29 paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.
- 30 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), a minimum of 50
- 31 percent shall be allocated for Level II capital preservation grants.
- 32 As used in this subsection, "Level II capital preservation grant"
- 33 means a construction grant awarded by the New Jersey Historic
- 34 Trust for the preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation of a historic
- property in an amount between \$150,001 to \$750,000. **]**¹ 35
- 36 (cf: P.L.2018, c.95, s.2)

- 38 ¹6. Section 13 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-55) is amended to 39 read as follows:
- 13. a. At least once [every two years] each State fiscal year, 40
- 41 the Department of Environmental Protection, the State Agriculture 42 Development Committee, and the New Jersey Historic Trust shall
- 43 each submit to the Garden State Preservation Trust a list of projects
- 44 recommended to receive funding pursuant to [this act] P.L.2016,
- c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) . Except as otherwise provided by [this 46 act P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.), such funding
- 47 recommendations shall be based upon the same respective priority

systems, ranking criteria, and funding policies as those established pursuant to sections 23, 24, 26, 27, and 37 through 42 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-23, C.13:8C-24, C.13:8C-26, C.13:8C-27, and C.13:8C-37 through C.13:8C-42), section 7 of P.L.2005, c.178 (C.13:8C-38.1), and sections 1 and 2 of P.L.2001, c.405 (C.13:8C-40.1 and C.13:8C-40.2), and any rules or regulations adopted pursuant to thereto.

b. The Garden State Preservation Trust shall review the project lists submitted pursuant to subsection a. of this section, and prepare, and submit to the Governor and to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly for introduction in the Legislature, proposed legislation appropriating moneys pursuant to [this act] P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) to fund projects on any such list. The Legislature may approve one or more appropriation bills containing a project list or lists submitted by the Garden State Preservation Trust pursuant to this subsection. ¹

(cf: P.L.2016, c.12, s.13)

¹7. Section 24 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-24) is amended to read as follows:

24. a. (1) There is established in the Department of Environmental Protection the Office of Green Acres. The commissioner may appoint an administrator or director who shall supervise the office, and the department may employ such other personnel and staff as may be required to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the department and the office pursuant to P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et al.) and P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et [al.] seq.), all without regard to the provisions of Title 11A, Civil Service, of the New Jersey Statutes. Persons appointed or employed as provided pursuant to this subsection shall be compensated in a manner similar to other employees in the Executive Branch, and their compensation shall be determined by the Civil Service Commission.

(2) The Green Acres Program in the Department of Environmental Protection, together with all of its functions, powers and duties, are continued and transferred to and constituted as the Office of Green Acres in the Department of Environmental Protection. Whenever, in any law, rule, regulation, order, contract, document, judicial or administrative proceeding or otherwise, reference is made to the Green Acres Program, the same shall mean and refer to the Office of Green Acres in the Department of Environmental Protection. This transfer shall be subject to the provisions of the "State Agency Transfer Act," P.L.1971, c.375 (C.52:14D-1 et seq.).

b. The duties and responsibilities of the office shall be as follows:

1 (1) Administer all provisions of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et 2 al.) and P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et [al.] seq.) pertaining to funding the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes as authorized pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 and paragraph 7 of the State Constitution;

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- (2) Continue to administer all grant and loan programs for the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including the Green Trust, established or funded for those purposes pursuant to: P.L.1961, c.45 (C.13:8A-1 et seq.); P.L.1971, c.419 (C.13:8A-19 et seq.); P.L.1975, c.155 (C.13:8A-35 et seq.); or any Green Acres bond act; [and]
- (3) Adopt, with the approval of the commissioner and pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and regulations:
- 15 (a) establishing application procedures for grants and loans for 16 the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and 17 conservation purposes, criteria and policies for the evaluation and 18 priority ranking of projects for eligibility to receive funding for 19 recreation and conservation purposes using constitutionally 20 dedicated moneys pursuant to P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et al.) or 21 constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys pursuant to P.L.2016, c.12 22 (C.13:8C-43 et [al.] seq.), any conditions that may be placed on the 23 award of a grant or loan for recreation and conservation purposes 24 pursuant to P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et al.) or P.L.2016, c.12 25 (C.13:8C-43 et al.), and any restrictions that may be placed on the 26 use of lands acquired or developed with a grant or loan for 27 recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to P.L.1999, c.152 28 (C.13:8C-1 et al.) or P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et [al.] seq.). The 29 criteria and policies established pursuant to this subparagraph for 30 the evaluation and priority ranking of projects for eligibility to 31 receive funding for recreation and conservation purposes using 32 constitutionally dedicated moneys pursuant to P.L.1999, c.152 33 (C.13:8C-1 et al.) or constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys 34 pursuant to P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et [al.] seq.) may be based 35 upon, but need not be limited to, such factors as: protection of the 36 environment, natural resources, water resources, watersheds, 37 aquifers, wetlands, floodplains and flood-prone areas, stream 38 corridors, beaches and coastal resources, forests and grasslands, 39 scenic views, biodiversity, habitat for wildlife, rare, threatened, or 40 endangered species, and plants; vernal habitat; degree of likelihood of development; promotion of greenways; provision for recreational 41 42 access and use; protection of geologic, historic, archaeological, and 43 cultural resources; relative cost; parcel size; and degree of public 44 support; [and]
 - (b) addressing any other matters deemed necessary to implement and carry out the goals and objectives of Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 and paragraph 7 of the State Constitution and P.L.1999,

1 c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et al.) and P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-2 43 et [al.] seq.) with respect to the acquisition and development of 3 lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including the 4 acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes that 5 have been damaged by, or may be prone to incurring damage caused 6 by, storms or storm-related flooding, or that may buffer or protect 7 other lands from such damage; and 8 (c) establishing application requirements and a fee schedule for 9 the review by the department of applications to convey, dispose of, 10 or divert to a use other than recreation and conservation purposes 11 lands acquired or developed by a local government unit or a 12 qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization for recreation and 13 conservation purposes using funds from any Green Acres bond act, 14 constitutionally dedicated moneys pursuant to P.L.1999, c.152 15 (C.13:8C-1 et al.), or constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys 16 pursuant to P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.), or lands held by 17 the local government unit for recreation and conservation purposes 18 at the time of receipt of such funds. The fees established pursuant 19 to this subparagraph shall reflect the costs of the Office of Green 20 Acres incurred in processing and reviewing applications to convey, 21 dispose of, or divert lands acquired, developed, or held for 22 recreation and conservation purposes to a use other than recreation and conservation purposes. All fees collected pursuant to the fee 23 24 schedule adopted pursuant to this subparagraph shall be used to 25 offset the administrative costs of the Office of Green Acres 26 associated with such reviews pursuant to the provisions of section 27 13 of P.L.1961, c.45 (C.13:8A-13), section 13 of P.L.1971, c.419 28 (C.13:8A-31), section 13 of P.L.1975, c.155 (C.13:8A-47), sections 29 31 through 35 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-31 through C.13:8C-30 35), and section 11 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-53), as appropriate, 31 and any other applicable law; and 32 (4) Establishing criteria and policies for the evaluation and 33 priority ranking of State projects to acquire and develop lands for 34 recreation and conservation purposes using constitutionally 35 dedicated moneys pursuant to P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-1 et al.) or 36 constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys pursuant to P.L.2016, c.12 37 (C.13:8C-43 et [al.] seq.), which criteria and policies may be based upon, but need not be limited to, such factors as: protection of the 38 39 environment, natural resources, water resources, watersheds, 40 aquifers, wetlands, floodplains and flood-prone areas, stream 41 corridors, beaches and coastal resources, forests and grasslands, 42 scenic views, biodiversity, habitat for wildlife, rare, threatened, or 43 endangered species, and plants; vernal habitat; degree of likelihood 44 of development; promotion of greenways; provision for recreational 45 access and use; protection of geologic, historic, archaeological, and

cultural resources; relative cost; parcel size; and degree of public

48 (cf: P.L.2016, c.12, s.16)

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- ²8. Section 26 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-26) is amended to read as follows:
- 26. a. Moneys appropriated from the Garden State Green Acres
 Preservation Trust Fund to the Department of Environmental
 Protection shall be used by the department to:

- (1) Pay the cost of acquisition and development of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes;
- (2) Provide grants and loans to assist local government units to pay the cost of acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes; and
- (3) Provide grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations to pay the cost of acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes.
- b. The expenditure and allocation of constitutionally dedicated moneys for recreation and conservation purposes shall reflect the geographic diversity of the State to the maximum extent practicable and feasible.
- c. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 5 of P.L.1985, c.310 (C.13:18A-34) or this act, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, to the contrary, the value of a pinelands development credit, allocated to a parcel pursuant to P.L.1979, c.111 (C.13:18A-1 et seq.) and the pinelands comprehensive management plan adopted pursuant thereto, shall be made utilizing a value to be determined by either appraisal, regional averaging based upon appraisal data, or a formula supported by appraisal data. The appraisal and appraisal data shall consider as appropriate: land values in the pinelands regional growth areas; land values in counties, municipalities, and other areas reasonably contiguous to, but outside of, the pinelands area; and other relevant factors as may be necessary to maintain the environmental, ecological, and agricultural qualities of the pinelands area.
- (2) No pinelands development credit allocated to a parcel of land pursuant to P.L.1979, c.111 (C.13:18A-1 et seq.) and the pinelands comprehensive management plan adopted pursuant thereto that is acquired or obtained in connection with the acquisition of the parcel for recreation and conservation purposes by the State, a local government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization using constitutionally dedicated moneys in whole or in part may be conveyed in any manner. All such pinelands development credits shall be retired permanently.
 - d. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70)
- e. Moneys appropriated from the fund may be used to match grants, contributions, donations, or reimbursements from federal aid programs or from other public or private sources established for the same or similar purposes as the fund.
- f. Moneys appropriated from the fund shall not be used by local government units or qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire lands that are already permanently

1 preserved for recreation and conservation purposes, as determined 2 by the department.

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- g. Whenever lands are donated to the State by a public utility, as defined pursuant to Title 48 of the Revised Statutes, for recreation and conservation purposes, the commissioner may make and keep the lands accessible to the public, unless the commissioner determines that public accessibility would be detrimental to the lands or any natural resources associated therewith.
- 9 h. Whenever the State acquires land for recreation and 10 conservation purposes, the agency in the Department of 11 Environmental Protection responsible for administering the land 12 shall, within six months after the date of acquisition, inspect the 13 land for the presence of any buildings or structures thereon which 14 are or may be historic properties and, within 60 days after 15 completion of the inspection, provide to the New Jersey Historic 16 Preservation Office in the department (1) a written notice of its 17 findings, and (2) for any buildings or structures which are or may 18 be historic properties discovered on the land, a request for 19 determination of potential eligibility for inclusion of the historic 20 building or structure in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. 21 Whenever such a building or structure is discovered, a copy of the 22 written notice provided to the New Jersey Historic Preservation 23 Office shall also be sent to the New Jersey Historic Trust and to the 24 county historical commission or advisory committee, the county 25 historical society, the local historic preservation commission or 26 advisory committee, and the local historical society if any of those 27 entities exist in the county or municipality wherein the land is 28 located.
 - i. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70)
- 30 (1) Commencing on the date of enactment of P.L.2004, j. 31 c.120 (C.13:20-1 et al.) and through June 30, [2019] 2024 for lands 32 located in the Highlands Region as defined pursuant to section 3 of 33 P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), when the department, a local 34 government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization 35 seeks to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes 36 using constitutionally dedicated moneys in whole or in part [or], 37 Green Acres bond act moneys in whole or in part, or 38 constitutionally dedicated CBT moneys pursuant to P.L.2016, c.12 39 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.) in whole or in part, it shall conduct or cause to 40 be conducted an appraisal or appraisals of the value of the lands that 41 shall be made using (a) the land use zoning of the lands, and any 42 State environmental laws or Department of Environmental 43 Protection rules and regulations that may affect the value of the 44 lands, subject to the appraisal and in effect at the time of proposed 45 acquisition, and (b) the land use zoning of the lands, and any State 46 environmental laws or Department of Environmental Protection 47 rules and regulations that may affect the value of the lands, subject 48 to the appraisal and in effect on January 1, 2004. The higher of

those two values shall be utilized by the department, a local government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization as the basis for negotiation with the landowner with respect to the acquisition price for the lands. The landowner shall be provided with both values determined pursuant to this paragraph.

A landowner may waive any of the requirements of this paragraph and may agree to sell the lands for less than the values determined pursuant to this paragraph.

The provisions of this paragraph shall be applicable only to lands the owner of which at the time of proposed acquisition is the same person who owned the lands on the date of enactment of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-1 et al.) and who has owned the lands continuously since that enactment date, or is an immediate family member of that person.

- (2) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70)
- (3) The requirements of this subsection shall be in addition to any other requirements of law, rule, or regulation not inconsistent therewith.
 - (4) This subsection shall not:

- (a) apply in the case of lands to be acquired with federal moneys in whole or in part;
 - (b) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70); or
- (c) alter any requirements to disclose information to a landowner pursuant to the "Eminent Domain Act of 1971," P.L.1971, c.361 (C.20:3-1 et seq.).
- (5) For the purposes of this subsection, "immediate family member" means a spouse, child, parent, sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, first cousin, grandparent, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister, whether the individual is related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- k. The department shall adopt guidelines for the evaluation and priority ranking process which shall be used in making decisions concerning the acquisition of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes using moneys from the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund and from any other source. The guidelines shall be designed to provide, to the maximum extent practicable and feasible, that such moneys are spent equitably among the geographic areas of the State. The guidelines, and any subsequent revisions thereto, shall be published in the New Jersey Register. The adoption of the guidelines or of the revisions thereto, shall not be subject to the requirements of the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).
- 1. In making decisions concerning the acquisition of lands by the State for recreation and conservation purposes using moneys from the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund, in the evaluation and priority ranking process the department shall accord three times the weight to acquisitions of lands that would protect

1 water resources, and two times the weight to acquisitions of lands 2 that would protect flood-prone areas, as those criteria are compared to the other criteria in the priority ranking process.

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m. The department, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations that establish standards and requirements regulating any activity on lands acquired by the State for recreation and conservation purposes using constitutionally dedicated moneys to assure that the activity on those lands does not diminish the protection of surface water or groundwater resources.

Any rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection shall not apply to activities on lands acquired prior to the adoption of the rules and regulations.

n. (1) The department, within three months after the date of the first meeting of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-4), shall consult with and solicit recommendations from the council concerning land preservation strategies and acquisition plans in the Highlands Region as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3).

The council's recommendations shall also address strategies and plans concerning establishment by the department of a methodology for prioritizing the acquisition of land in the Highlands preservation area, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), for recreation and conservation purposes using moneys from the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund, especially with respect to (a) any land that has declined substantially in value due to the implementation of the "Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act," P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-1 et al.), and (b) any major Highlands development, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), that would have qualified for an exemption pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section 30 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-28) but for the lack of a necessary State permit as specified in subparagraph (b) or (c), as appropriate, of paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section 30 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-28), and for which an application for such a permit had been submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection and deemed by the department to be complete for review on or before March 29, 2004. The recommendations may also include a listing of specific parcels in the Highlands preservation area that the council is aware of that meet the criteria of subparagraph (a) or (b) of this paragraph and for that reason should be considered by the department as a priority for acquisition, but any such list shall remain confidential notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or any other law to the contrary.

(2) In making decisions concerning applications for funding submitted by municipalities in the Highlands planning area, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), to acquire or

- 1 develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes using 2 moneys from the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust 3 Fund, in the evaluation and priority ranking process the department shall accord a higher weight to any application submitted by a 4 5 municipality in the Highlands planning area that has amended its 6 development regulations in accordance with section 13 of P.L.2004, 7 c.120 (C.13:20-13) to establish one or more receiving zones for the 8 transfer of development potential from the Highlands preservation 9 area, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), than 10 that which is accorded to comparable applications submitted by 11 other municipalities in the Highlands planning area that have not
- 13 o. Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-14 1 et seq.) to the contrary, for State fiscal years 2005 through 2009, 15 the sum spent by the department in each of those fiscal years for the 16 acquisition of lands by the State for recreation and conservation 17 purposes using moneys from the Garden State Green Acres 18 Preservation Trust Fund in each county of the State shall be not 19 less, and may be greater if additional sums become available, than 20 the average annual sum spent by the department therefor in each 21 such county, respectively, for State fiscal years 2002 through 2004, provided there is sufficient and appropriate lands within the county 22 to be so acquired by the State for such purposes.² 23

made such amendments to their development regulations.

24 (cf: P.L.2015, c.5, s.1)

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- ²9. Section 38 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-38) is amended to read as follows:
- 38. a. All acquisitions or grants made pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-37) shall be made with respect to farmland devoted to farmland preservation under programs established by law.
- b. The expenditure and allocation of constitutionally dedicated moneys for farmland preservation purposes shall reflect the geographic diversity of the State to the maximum extent practicable and feasible.
- c. The committee shall implement the provisions of section 37 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-37) in accordance with the procedures and criteria established pursuant to the "Agriculture Retention and Development Act," P.L.1983, c.32 (C.4:1C-11 et seq.) except as provided otherwise by this act.
- d. The committee shall adopt the same or a substantially similar method for determining, for the purposes of this act, the committee's share of the cost of a development easement on farmland to be acquired by a local government as that which is being used by the committee on the date of enactment of this act for prior farmland preservation funding programs.
- e. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 24 of P.L.1983, c.32 (C.4:1C-31) or this act, or any rule or regulation adopted

pursuant thereto, to the contrary, whenever the value of a development easement on farmland to be acquired using constitutionally dedicated moneys in whole or in part is determined based upon the value of any pinelands development credits allocated to the parcel pursuant to P.L.1979, c.111 (C.13:18A-1 et seq.) and the pinelands comprehensive management plan adopted pursuant thereto, the committee shall determine the value of the development easement by:

- (1) conducting a sufficient number of fair market value appraisals as it deems appropriate to determine the value for farmland preservation purposes of the pinelands development credits;
- (2) considering development easement values in counties, municipalities, and other areas (a) reasonably contiguous to, but outside of, the pinelands area, which in the sole opinion of the committee constitute reasonable development easement values in the pinelands area for the purposes of this subsection, and (b) in the pinelands area where pinelands development credits are or may be utilized, which in the sole opinion of the committee constitute reasonable development easement values in the pinelands area for the purposes of this subsection;
- (3) considering land values in the pinelands regional growth areas;
- (4) considering the importance of preserving agricultural lands in the pinelands area; and
- (5) considering such other relevant factors as may be necessary to increase participation in the farmland preservation program by owners of agricultural lands located in the pinelands area.
- f. No pinelands development credit that is acquired or obtained in connection with the acquisition of a development easement on farmland or fee simple title to farmland by the State, a local government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization using constitutionally dedicated moneys in whole or in part may be conveyed in any manner. All such pinelands development credits shall be retired permanently.
- g. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70)
- h. Any farmland for which a development easement or fee simple title has been acquired pursuant to section 37 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-37) shall be entitled to the benefits conferred by the "Right to Farm Act," P.L.1983, c.31 (C.4:1C-1 et al.) and the "Agriculture Retention and Development Act," P.L.1983, c.32 (C.4:1C-11 et al.).
 - i. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70)
- j. (1) Commencing on the date of enactment of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-1 et al.) and through June 30, [2019] 2024 for lands located in the Highlands Region as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), when the committee, a local government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization

1 seeks to acquire a development easement on farmland or the fee 2 simple title to farmland for farmland preservation purposes using constitutionally dedicated moneys in whole or in part [or], Green 3 Acres bond act moneys in whole or in part, or constitutionally 4 5 dedicated CBT moneys pursuant to P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et 6 seq.) in whole or in part, it shall conduct or cause to be conducted an appraisal or appraisals of the value of the lands that shall be 7 8 made using (a) the land use zoning of the lands, and any State 9 environmental laws or Department of Environmental Protection 10 rules and regulations that may affect the value of the lands, subject 11 to the appraisal and in effect at the time of proposed acquisition, and (b) the land use zoning of the lands, and any State 12 13 environmental laws or Department of Environmental Protection 14 rules and regulations that may affect the value of the lands, subject 15 to the appraisal and in effect on January 1, 2004. The higher of 16 those two values shall be utilized by the committee, a local 17 government unit, or a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization 18 as the basis for negotiation with the landowner with respect to the 19 acquisition price for the lands. The landowner shall be provided 20 with both values determined pursuant to this paragraph.

A landowner may waive any of the requirements of this paragraph and may agree to sell the lands for less than the values determined pursuant to this paragraph.

The provisions of this paragraph shall be applicable only to lands the owner of which at the time of proposed acquisition is the same person who owned the lands on the date of enactment of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-1 et al.) and who has owned the lands continuously since that enactment date, or is an immediate family member of that person.

- (2) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70)
- (3) The requirements of this subsection shall be in addition to 32 any other requirements of law, rule, or regulation not inconsistent 33 therewith.
 - (4) This subsection shall not:

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- 35 (a) apply in the case of lands to be acquired with federal moneys 36 in whole or in part;
 - (b) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2010, c.70); or
- 38 (c) alter any requirements to disclose information to a landowner pursuant to the "Eminent Domain Act of 1971," 39 40 P.L.1971, c.361 (C.20:3-1 et seq.).
 - (5) For the purposes of this subsection, "immediate family member" means a spouse, child, parent, sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, first cousin, grandparent, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister, whether the individual is related by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- 47 k. The committee and the Department of Environmental 48 Protection, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"

P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall jointly adopt rules and regulations that establish standards and requirements regulating any improvement on lands acquired by the State for farmland preservation purposes using constitutionally dedicated moneys to assure that any improvement does not diminish the protection of surface water or groundwater resources.

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Any rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection shall not apply to improvements on lands acquired prior to the adoption of the rules and regulations.

1. (1) The committee, within three months after the date of the first meeting of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-4), shall consult with and solicit recommendations from the council concerning farmland preservation strategies and acquisition plans in the Highlands Region as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3).

The council's recommendations shall also address strategies and plans concerning establishment by the committee of a methodology for prioritizing the acquisition of development easements and fee simple titles to farmland in the Highlands preservation area, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), for farmland preservation purposes using moneys from the Garden State Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, especially with respect to farmland that has declined substantially in value due to the implementation of the "Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act," P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-1 et al.). The recommendations may also include a listing of specific parcels in the Highlands preservation area that the council is aware of that have experienced a substantial decline in value and for that reason should be considered by the committee as a priority for acquisition, but any such list shall remain confidential notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or any other law to the contrary.

(2) In prioritizing applications for funding submitted by local government units in the Highlands planning area, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), to acquire development easements on farmland in the Highlands planning area using moneys from the Garden State Farmland Preservation Trust Fund, the committee shall accord a higher weight to any application submitted by a local government unit to preserve farmland in a municipality in the Highlands planning area that has amended its development regulations in accordance with section 13 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-13) to establish one or more receiving zones for the transfer of development potential from the Highlands preservation area, as defined in section 3 of P.L.2004, c.120 (C.13:20-3), than that which is accorded to comparable applications submitted by other local government units to preserve farmland in municipalities in the Highlands planning area that have not made such amendments to their development regulations.

1 m. Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-2 1 et seq.) to the contrary, for State fiscal years 2005 through 2009, 3 the sum spent by the committee in each of those fiscal years for the 4 acquisition by the committee of development easements and fee 5 simple titles to farmland for farmland preservation purposes using 6 moneys from the Garden State Farmland Preservation Trust Fund in 7 each county of the State shall be not less, and may be greater if 8 additional sums become available, than the average annual sum 9 spent by the department therefor in each such county, respectively, 10 for State fiscal years 2002 through 2004, provided there is sufficient 11 and appropriate farmland within the county to be so acquired by the committee for such purposes.² 12

13 (cf: P.L.2015, c.5, s.2)

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²[18.] 10.² (New section) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) of subsection b. of section 18 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-18) or any Green Acres bond act to the contrary, any repayments of the principal and interest on loans issued to local government units for the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to subsection b. of section 27 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-27) or any Green Acres bond act, as applicable, shall be allocated only for the issuance of additional grants or loans to local government units for the acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes.¹

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- ²[19.] 11.² (New section) a. Whenever the Commissioner of Environmental Protection finds that a person has violated section 13 of P.L.1961, c.45 (C.13:8A-13), section 13 of P.L.1971, c.419 (C.13:8A-31), section 13 of P.L.1975, c.155 (C.13:8A-47), sections 31 through 35 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-31 through C.13:8C-35), or section 11 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-53), or any other applicable law, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, concerning the conveyance, disposal, or diversion of lands acquired, developed, or held for recreation and conservation purposes, the commissioner may:
- 37 (1) issue an order requiring any such person to comply in accordance with subsection b. of this section; or
- 39 (2) bring a civil action in accordance with subsection c. of this 40 section; or
- 41 (3) levy a civil administrative penalty in accordance with 42 subsection d. of this section; or
- 43 (4) bring an action for a civil penalty in accordance with subsection e. of this section.
- Recourse to any of the remedies available under this section shall not preclude recourse to any of the other remedies prescribed in this section or by any other applicable law.

- b. Whenever, on the basis of available information, the
- 2 commissioner finds a person in violation of any provision of section
- 3 <u>13 of P.L.1961, c.45 (C.13:8A-13), section 13 of P.L.1971, c.419</u>
- 4 (C.13:8A-31), section 13 of P.L.1975, c.155 (C.13:8A-47), sections
- 5 31 through 35 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-31 through C.13:8C-
- 6 <u>35</u>), or section 11 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-53), or any other
- 7 applicable law, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto,
- 8 the commissioner may issue an order: (1) specifying the provision
- 9 or provisions of the law, rule, or regulation, being violated; (2)
- 10 citing the action which constituted the violation; (3) requiring
- 11 compliance with the provision or provisions violated; (4) requiring
- the restoration of the area which is the site of the violation; and (5)
- providing notice to the person of the right to a hearing on the matters contained in the order.
- 15 c. The commissioner is authorized to institute a civil action in
- 16 Superior Court for appropriate relief from any violation of any
- 17 provision of any provision of section 13 of P.L.1961, c.45
- 18 (C.13:8A-13), section 13 of P.L.1971, c.419 (C.13:8A-31), section
- 19 13 of P.L.1975, c.155 (C.13:8A-47), sections 31 through 35 of
- 20 P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-31 through C.13:8C-35), or section 11 of
- 21 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-53), or any other applicable law, or any
- 22 <u>rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto</u>. Such relief may
- 23 <u>include, singly or in combination:</u>
- 24 (1) a temporary or permanent injunction;
- 25 (2) assessment of the violator for the costs of any investigation,
- 26 <u>inspection</u>, or monitoring survey which led to the establishment of
- 27 the violation, and for the reasonable costs of preparing and bringing
- 28 legal action under this subsection;
- 29 (3) assessment of the violator for any costs incurred by the State
- 30 in removing, correcting, or terminating the adverse effects resulting
- 31 from any unauthorized regulated activity for which legal action
- 32 under this subsection may have been brought;
- 33 (4) assessment against the violator for compensatory damages
- 34 for any loss or destruction of wildlife, fish or aquatic life, and for
- 35 any other actual damages caused by an unauthorized regulated
- 36 <u>activity; or</u>
- 37 (5) a requirement that the violator restore the site of the
- 38 <u>violation to the maximum extent practicable and feasible.</u>
- d. The commissioner is authorized to assess a civil administrative penalty of up to \$25,000 for each violation, and each
- 40 <u>administrative penalty of up to \$25,000 for each violation, and each</u>
 41 <u>day during which each violation continues shall constitute an</u>
- 42 <u>additional, separate, and distinct offense.</u> Any amount assessed
- 43 under this subsection shall fall within a range established by
- 44 regulation by the commissioner for violations of similar type,
- 45 <u>seriousness</u>, and duration. In adopting rules and regulations
- 46 establishing the amount of any penalty to be assessed, the
- 47 <u>commissioner may take into account the economic benefits from the</u>
- 48 <u>violation gained by the violator. No assessment shall be levied</u>

1 pursuant to this section until after the party has been notified by 2 certified mail or personal service. The notice shall: (1) identify the 3 section of the law, rule, or regulation violated; (2) recite the facts 4 alleged to constitute a violation; (3) state the amount of the civil 5 penalties to be imposed; and (4) affirm the rights of the alleged 6 violator to a hearing. The ordered party shall have 20 days from 7 receipt of the notice within which to deliver to the commissioner a 8 written request for a hearing. After the hearing and upon finding 9 that a violation has occurred, the commissioner may issue a final 10 order after assessing the amount of the fine specified in the notice. 11 If no hearing is requested, the notice shall become a final order after 12 the expiration of the 20-day period. Payment of the assessment is 13 due when a final order is issued or the notice becomes a final order. 14 The authority to levy an administrative penalty is in addition to all 15 other enforcement provisions in any other applicable law, rule, or 16 regulation, and the payment of any assessment shall not be deemed 17 to affect the availability of any other enforcement provisions in 18 connection with the violation for which the assessment is levied. 19 Any civil administrative penalty assessed under this section may be 20 compromised by the commissioner upon the posting of a 21 performance bond by the violator, or upon such terms and 22 conditions as the commissioner may establish by regulation. 23 e. A person who violates any provision of provision of section 24 13 of P.L.1961, c.45 (C.13:8A-13), section 13 of P.L.1971, c.419 25 (C.13:8A-31), section 13 of P.L.1975, c.155 (C.13:8A-47), sections 26 31 through 35 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-31 through C.13:8C-27 35), or section 11 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-53), or any other 28 applicable law, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, 29 an administrative order issued pursuant to subsection b. of this 30 section, or a court order issued pursuant to subsection c. of this 31 section, or who fails to pay a civil administrative penalty in full 32 pursuant to subsection d. of this section, shall be subject, upon 33 order of a court, to a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 per day of 34 such violation, and each day during which the violation continues 35 shall constitute an additional, separate, and distinct offense. Any 36 civil penalty imposed pursuant to this subsection may be collected 37 with costs in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty 38 Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.). 39 In addition to any penalties, costs or interest charges, the court may 40 assess against the violator the amount of actual economic benefit 41 accruing to the violator from the violation. The Superior Court and 42 the municipal court shall have jurisdiction to enforce the provisions 43 of the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999" in connection with this 44 act. 45 f. The department may require an applicant to provide any 46 information the department requires to determine compliance with 47 any provision of section 13 of P.L.1961, c.45 (C.13:8A-13), section 13 of P.L.1971, c.419 (C.13:8A-31), section 13 of P.L.1975, c.155 48

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1 (C.13:8A-47), sections 31 through 35 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-2 31 through C.13:8C-35), or section 11 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-3 53), or any other applicable law, or any rule or regulation adopted 4 pursuant thereto. 5 g. Any person who knowingly, recklessly, or negligently makes 6 a false statement, representation, or certification in any application, 7 record, or other document filed or required to be maintained under 8 section 13 of P.L.1961, c.45 (C.13:8A-13), section 13 of P.L.1971, 9 c.419 (C.13:8A-31), section 13 of P.L.1975, c.155 (C.13:8A-47), 10 sections 31 through 35 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-31 through C.13:8C-35), or section 11 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-53), or any 11 12 other applicable law, or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant 13 thereto, shall be in violation and shall be subject to the penalties 14 assessed pursuant to subsections d. and e. of this section. 15 h. All penalties collected pursuant to this section shall either be 16 used, as determined by the department, for the purposes of 17 reviewing the conveyance, disposal, or diversion of lands acquired, 18 developed, or held for recreation and conservation purposes.¹ 19 ²[10.] 12. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9 of 20 21 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-51) or any other provision of law to the 22 contrary, there is appropriated the sum of \$500,000 from the 23 "Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund," established 24 pursuant to section 9 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-51), to the New 25 Jersey Historic Trust for the purpose of establishing an electronic 26 database to track projects that receive funding for historic 27 preservation purposes.1 28 ¹[5. This] ²[11.] 13. Sections 1 through ²[9] 11 of this act 29 shall take effect immediately ¹, and section ²[10] 12² of this act 30 shall take effect on July 1, 2019 or immediately, whichever is later¹. 31