

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 109

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 18, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB ANDRZEJCZAK

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Senator JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

SYNOPSIS

Supports seafood gleaning pilot program in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/29/2019)

1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** supporting a seafood gleaning pilot
2 program in Monmouth and Ocean counties.
3
4 **WHEREAS**, Commercial fishing is a crucial part of the history, culture,
5 and economy of the Jersey Shore; and
6 **WHEREAS**, The annual harvest of New Jersey’s commercial fishing
7 industry is valued over \$166 million with over 107 million pounds
8 of seafood harvested annually; and
9 **WHEREAS**, It is estimated that approximately 20 percent, or 2 billion
10 pounds, of the entire United States fisheries catch is discarded each
11 year, and not put into productive use; and
12 **WHEREAS**, Utilizing a portion of that discarded seafood waste would
13 make a substantial impact on hunger nationwide by securing a
14 much-needed source of protein for food banks, pantries, and soup
15 kitchens available year-round; and
16 **WHEREAS**, More than 1 million residents of New Jersey, including
17 375,000 children suffer from food insecurity, while nationwide
18 more than 49 million people including 16 million children face food
19 insecurity; and
20 **WHEREAS**, These problems with food security persist despite the
21 fact that New Jersey is one of the wealthiest states in the nation,
22 and the United States discards up to 40 percent of the food it
23 produces; and
24 **WHEREAS**, A group from the commercial fishing industry in New
25 Jersey is seeking to reduce hunger by creating a new program to use
26 discarded seafood by gleaning, i.e., to gather seafood after it is
27 harvested; and
28 **WHEREAS**, The State has enacted several measures encouraging and
29 protecting traditional gleaning on farmland, including the creation
30 of “New Jersey Gleaning Week” and liability protections for
31 organizations performing gleaning; and
32 **WHEREAS**, Members of the commercial fishing industry in the State
33 have made applications to the United States Department of
34 Agriculture and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric
35 Administration in the United States Department of Commerce for
36 grants that would help establish a seafood gleaning program; and
37 **WHEREAS**, The seafood gleaning program would partner with seafood
38 processors and distributors, food banks, aquaculturists, processors,
39 and other interested parties to create and distribute useable fishery
40 products from discarded and underutilized fish and seafood; and
41 **WHEREAS**, Several municipalities in Monmouth and Ocean counties,
42 including Toms River Township, the Borough of Lavallette, and the
43 Borough of Bay Head, have passed resolutions expressing support
44 for such programs; and
45 **WHEREAS**, The establishment of a seafood gleaning program would
46 allow New Jersey to be at the forefront of reducing food waste
47 and increasing food security among its citizenry, and it is fitting

1 and proper for the Legislature to commend and support such
2 efforts; now, therefore,

3

4 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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6 1. This House supports the efforts of member of the New Jersey
7 fishing industry to create a seafood gleaning pilot program in
8 Monmouth and Ocean counties, and urges the United States
9 Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanographic and
10 Atmospheric Administration to issue grants in furtherance of such
11 an effort to reduce waste and increase food security in the State.

12

13 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State
14 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
15 Freeholders of Monmouth County, the Freeholders of Ocean
16 County, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the
17 Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the
18 Administrator of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric
19 Administration.

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22 STATEMENT

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24 This resolution expresses support for a seafood gleaning pilot
25 project in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

26 Commercial fishing is a crucial part of the history, culture, and
27 economy of the Jersey Shore. The annual harvest of New Jersey's
28 commercial fishing industry is valued over \$166 million with over
29 107 million pounds of seafood harvested annually. It is estimated
30 that approximately 20 percent, or 2 billion pounds, of the entire
31 United States fisheries catch is discarded each year, and not put into
32 productive use. Utilizing a portion of that discarded seafood waste
33 would make a substantial impact on hunger nationwide by securing
34 a much-needed source of protein for food banks, pantries and soup
35 kitchens available year-round.

36 Members of the commercial fishing industry in New Jersey are
37 seeking to reduce hunger by creating a new program to use
38 discarded seafood by gleaning, i.e., to gathering seafood after it is
39 harvested. New Jersey has enacted several measures encouraging
40 and protecting traditional gleaning on farmland, including the
41 creation of "New Jersey Gleaning Week" and liability protections
42 for organizations performing gleaning. Members of the commercial
43 fishing industry have made applications to the United States
44 Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanographic and
45 Atmospheric Administration for grants that would help establish a
46 seafood gleaning program. The seafood gleaning program would
47 partner with seafood processors and distributors, food banks,
48 aquaculturists, processors, and other interested parties to create and

1 distribute useable fishery products from discarded and underutilized
2 fish and seafood. Several municipalities in Monmouth and Ocean
3 counties, including Toms River Township, the Borough of
4 Lavallette, and the Borough Bay Head, have passed resolutions
5 expressing support for such programs. The establishment of a
6 seafood gleaning program would allow New Jersey to be at the
7 forefront of reducing food waste and increasing food security
8 among its citizenry, and it is fitting and proper for the Legislature to
9 commend and support such efforts.