

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 136

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 1997

By Assemblywoman ALLEN and Assemblyman DeSOPO

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the Department of Environmental
2 Protection to utilize Green Acres monies to fund the Palmyra Cove Wildlife
3 Refuge land preservation project as soon as possible.

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5 **WHEREAS**, Palmyra Cove is one of the few remaining natural sites left in a
6 densely populated and urbanized area in Burlington county that is in great
7 need of more parkland for passive recreation and environmental education;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS**, The site of the proposed Palmyra Cove Wildlife Refuge constitutes
10 approximately 350 acres of scenic and ecologically sensitive undeveloped
11 land located on the Delaware river shoreline, just south of the Tacony-
12 Palmyra Bridge in the Borough of Palmyra, and serves as important habitat
13 for over 200 species of resident and migratory birds, including two
14 endangered and 11 threatened species, as well as various mammals,
15 reptiles, amphibians, and native plant life; and

16 **WHEREAS**, The location of the refuge site on the shores of the Delaware river
17 makes it ideal for designation as a major piece of the Delaware River
18 Greenway, a land preservation project undertaken by a large partnership
19 of public agencies and private groups in both New Jersey and
20 Pennsylvania; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Permanent protection of the Palmyra Cove area would also greatly
22 complement conservation efforts undertaken by the States of New Jersey,
23 Delaware, and Pennsylvania and the federal government pursuant to the
24 Delaware Estuary Program; and

25 **WHEREAS**, An estimated sum of at least \$825,000 is needed to develop the
26 Palmyra Cove area as a wildlife refuge, to be used for such purposes as the
27 clearing and enhancement of trails, landscaping, and the construction of
28 observation platforms, picnic areas, education centers, exhibits, and
29 bridges; now therefore,

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31 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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33 1. The Department of Environmental Protection is urged to utilize Green
34 Acres monies to fund the Palmyra Cove Wildlife Refuge land

1 preservation project in the Borough of Palmyra, Burlington county, as soon as
2 possible.

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4 2. A duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of
5 the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof, shall be transmitted
6 to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection.

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STATEMENT

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11 This resolution would urge the Department of Environmental Protection to
12 utilize Green Acres monies to fund the Palmyra Cove Wildlife Refuge land
13 preservation project in the Borough of Palmyra, Burlington county, as soon as
14 possible. Palmyra Cove is a scenic, ecologically sensitive, and undeveloped
15 area located on the Delaware river shoreline, just south of the Tacony-
16 Palmyra Bridge.

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21 Urges DEP to fund Palmyra Cove Wildlife Refuge project with Green Acres
22 monies.