

SENATE, No. 1771

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 14, 1997

By Senator SINGER

1 AN ACT appropriating \$15,000,000 from the "Port of New Jersey
2 Revitalization, Dredging, Environmental Cleanup, Lake
3 Restoration, and Delaware Bay Area Economic Development Bond
4 Act of 1996," P.L.1996, c.70, for financing an economic
5 development site in the Delaware River and Bay Region.
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7 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
8 of New Jersey:

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10 1. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
11 Protection from the "1996 Economic Development Site Fund,"
12 established pursuant to section 20 of the "Port of New Jersey
13 Revitalization, Dredging, Environmental Cleanup, Lake Restoration,
14 and Delaware Bay Area Economic Development Bond Act of 1996,"
15 P.L.1996, c.70, the sum of \$15,000,000 for the purpose of providing
16 funds to the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, or any
17 governmental entity designated by that body, to finance the cost of
18 acquiring real property or interests therein upon which the proposed
19 New Jersey Food Distribution Center would be constructed. These
20 funds may also be used to finance the cost of site improvements on the
21 real property or interests therein to be purchased under this act.
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23 2. Any transfer of any funds appropriated by this act shall require
24 the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its
25 successor.
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27 3. The expenditure of the funds appropriated by this act is subject
28 to the provisions and conditions of P.L.1996, c.70 and any regulations
29 adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant
30 thereto.
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32 4. This act shall take effect immediately.
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34 STATEMENT

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36 This bill appropriates \$15,000,000 from the \$20,000,000 allocation
37 of bonds authorized for the "1996 Economic Development Site Fund"

1 under the "Port of New Jersey Revitalization, Dredging,
2 Environmental Cleanup, Lake Restoration, and Delaware Bay Area
3 Economic Development Bond Act of 1996." This sum would be
4 provided to the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, or
5 any other governmental entity designated by that body, to acquire up
6 to 660 acres of real property or interests therein upon which the
7 proposed New Jersey Food Distribution Center would be built. The
8 proposed site for this facility is located in Florence and Burlington
9 townships, Burlington County, between the line formed by the
10 Delaware River on the west, the New Jersey Turnpike on the north,
11 U.S. Highway Route 130 on the east and southeast, and Dulty's Lane
12 on the south.

13 The New Jersey Food Distribution Center was first proposed by the
14 Legislature pursuant to P.L.1985, c.383 (C.4:26-1 et seq), which
15 created and directed the New Jersey Food Distribution Authority to
16 conduct studies to determine the feasibility of constructing and
17 operating a major food processing and distribution center in the
18 southern area of New Jersey. Based on a 1989 study that
19 recommended the construction of such a facility, plus an updated
20 report on this study (completed in 1993) that proposed a specific site
21 for the facility, P.L.1993, c.68 was enacted to authorize the location
22 of the facility pursuant to the study's site proposal. It is this site that
23 would be purchased with the bond monies appropriated under this bill.

24 Once the designated land is purchased and made suitable for
25 construction, the New Jersey Food Distribution Center is expected to
26 be built in incremental phases and financed mostly by food processors
27 and related businesses as the need arises.

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32 Appropriates \$15,000,000 from "1996 Economic Development Site
33 Fund" for proposed New Jersey Food Distribution Center in
34 Burlington County.