

SENATE, No. 2189

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 12, 1997

By Senators CIESLA, PALAIA, Kyrillos, Connors, Singer,
Bennett and Cafiero

1 AN ACT appropriating \$9,000,000 from the "Green Acres, Farmland
2 and Historic Preservation, and Blue Acres Bond Act of 1995,"
3 P.L.1995, c.204, for the purpose of providing State grants and
4 loans to assist local government units to acquire, for recreation and
5 conservation purposes, lands in the coastal area that have been
6 damaged by storms or storm-related flooding.

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

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11 1. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
12 Protection from the "1995 New Jersey Coastal Blue Acres Trust
13 Fund," established pursuant to section 27 of the "Green Acres,
14 Farmland and Historic Preservation, and Blue Acres Bond Act of
15 1995," P.L.1995, c.204, the sum of \$9,000,000 for the purpose of
16 providing State grants and loans to assist local government units to
17 acquire, for recreation and conservation purposes, lands in the coastal
18 area that have been damaged by storms or storm-related flooding, as
19 authorized pursuant to subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1995, c.204.
20 This sum shall include administrative costs.

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22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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27 This bill would appropriate \$9 million to the Department of
28 Environmental Protection (DEP) from the "Green Acres, Farmland and
29 Historic Preservation, and Blue Acres Bond Act of 1995," P.L.1995,
30 c.204, for the purpose of providing State grants and low-interest loans
31 to assist local government units to acquire, for recreation and
32 conservation purposes, lands along or near the coast that have been
33 damaged by storms or storm-related flooding. This sum represents the
34 entire amount especially authorized by the bond act for post-storm
35 acquisitions in the coastal area under the newly created coastal Blue
36 Acres program. The sum needs to be appropriated as soon as

1 practicable so that DEP and local officials may respond quickly to
2 acquisition opportunities that may arise after coastal storms. Under
3 this portion of the coastal Blue Acres program, a qualifying local
4 government unit receives a grant of 50% and a low-interest loan of up
5 to 50% of the cost of acquisition of storm-damaged property.
6 Properties may be acquired under the program only from willing
7 sellers. Actual expenditure of any appropriated funds for any
8 particular project requires the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight
9 Committee or its successor.

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14 Appropriates \$9 million from 1995 bond act for grants and loans to
15 local government units to acquire storm-damaged coastal properties
16 under coastal Blue Acres program.