

ASSEMBLY, No. 3993

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 15, 2014

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman SAMUEL L. FIOCCHI

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Giblin

SYNOPSIS

Requires consideration of ecotourism when evaluating and ranking applications by local government units or qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations for acquisition or development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/13/2015)

1 AN ACT concerning ecotourism and certain lands acquired or
2 developed for recreation and conservation purposes, and
3 supplementing Title 13 of the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. a. In addition to the criteria and policies established
9 pursuant to subsection b. of section 24 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-
10 24), when evaluating and ranking projects by local government
11 units and qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations for
12 eligibility to receive Green Acres funds, the office shall consider
13 the extent that the project would create or promote ecotourism.

14 b. As used in this section:

15 “Constitutionally dedicated moneys” means (1) the same as that
16 term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3), and (2)
17 any moneys made available for recreation and conservation
18 purposes pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the
19 State Constitution.

20 “Green Acres bond act” means the same as that term is defined
21 in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-3).

22 “Green Acres funds” means constitutionally dedicated moneys,
23 Green Acres bond act moneys, or other State moneys appropriated
24 to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes.

25 “Office” means the Office of Green Acres established by section
26 24 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-24).

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

29
30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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33 STATEMENT

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35 This bill would expand the criteria and policies established for
36 the evaluation and priority ranking by the Department of
37 Environmental Protection’s Green Acres Program of applications by
38 local government units or qualifying tax exempt nonprofit
39 organizations for eligibility to receive funding from the Green
40 Acres Program for recreation and conservation purposes. Under
41 this bill, the Green Acres Program would consider whether an
42 application would create or promote ecotourism. This consideration
43 of the creation or promotion of ecotourism would be in addition to
44 other criteria and policies set forth in law.