

**APPROPRIATION
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST**

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LAWS OF: 2025 **CHAPTER:** 169

NJSA: APPROPRIATION, Appropriates \$13,640,000 to DEP from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for grants of certain nonprofit entities for open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects, and for certain administrative expenses.

BILL NO: S4569 (Substituted for A5864 (1R))

SPONSOR(S) Smith, Bob and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 6/2/2025

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** --

SENATE: Budget & Appropriations

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** 12/08/2025

SENATE: 06/30/2025

DATE OF APPROVAL: 12/19/2025

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (S4569 enacted)

ADVANCE LAW Yes

PAMPHLET LAW Yes

S4569

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement) Yes

REPRINT(S): No

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: No

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A5864 (1R)

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement)	Yes	
REPRINT(S):	Yes	AAP 6/19/25 1R
TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL:	No	
COMMITTEE STATEMENT:		
ASSEMBLY:	Yes	
SENATE:	No	

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:	No
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:	No
VETO MESSAGE:	No
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
LEGISLATOR STATEMENT:	No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

CL/MMcB

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 169, *approved December 19, 2025*
Senate, No. 4569

1 AN ACT appropriating \$13,640,000 from constitutionally dedicated
2 corporation business tax revenues to provide grants to assist
3 qualifying tax-exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire,
4 develop, or conduct planning activities related to, lands for
5 recreation and conservation purposes, and for certain
6 administrative expenses.
7
8 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
9 of New Jersey:
10
11 1. a. For the purposes of this section:
12 “Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund” means the
13 fund established pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1999, c.152
14 (C.13:8C-19).
15 “Green Acres bond act” means P.L.2009, c.117, P.L.2007, c.119,
16 P.L.1995, c.204, P.L.1992, c.88, P.L.1989, c.183, P.L.1987, c.265,
17 and P.L.1983, c.354.
18 “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” means the fund
19 established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,”
20 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48).
21 “Stewardship activity” means the same as the term is defined in
22 section 3 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12
23 (C.13:8C-45).
24 b. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
25 Protection the sum of \$11,959,000 from the dedicated corporation
26 business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph
27 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres
28 Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New
29 Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for the purpose of
30 providing grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit
31 organizations to acquire lands for recreation and conservation
32 purposes pursuant to subsection c. of this section, to develop lands
33 for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to subsection d.
34 of this section, and to undertake stewardship activities pursuant to
35 subsection e. of this section.
36 c. The following projects for the acquisition of lands for
37 recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with
38 the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
(1) D & R Greenway Land Trust	Greenway Acquisitions	Burlington	Beverly City	\$1,136,000
			Bordentown City	
			Bordentown Twp	
			Burlington City	
			Burlington Twp	
			Chesterfield Twp	
			Cinnaminson Twp	
			Delanco Twp	
			Delran Twp	
			Edgewater Park Twp	
			Fieldsboro Boro	
			Florence Twp	
			Hainesport Twp	
			Mansfield Twp	
			Maple Shade Twp	
			Moorestown Twp	
			Mount Holly Twp	
			Mount Laurel Twp	
			Palmyra Boro	
			Riverside Twp	
			Riverton Boro	
			Springfield Twp	
			Westampton Twp	
			Willingboro Twp	
		Camden	Audubon Boro	
			Audubon Park Boro	
			Brooklawn Boro	
			Camden City	
			Cherry Hill Twp	
			Collingswood Boro	
			Gloucester City	
			Haddon Heights Boro	
			Haddon Twp	
			Haddonfield Boro	
			Merchantville Boro	
			Mount Ephraim Boro	
			Oaklyn Boro	
			Pennsauken Twp	
			Woodlynne Boro	
		Cumberland	Deerfield Twp	
			Fairfield Twp	
			Greenwich Twp	
			Hopewell Twp	
			Stow Creek Twp	
			Upper Deerfield Twp	
		Gloucester	National Park Boro	
			West Deptford Twp	
			Westville Boro	
		Hunterdon	All municipalities	
		Mercer	All municipalities	
		Middlesex	All municipalities	
		Monmouth	All municipalities	
		Morris	All municipalities	
		Salem	Elsinboro Twp	
			Lower Alloways Creek Twp	
			Mannington Twp	
			Pennsville Twp	
		Somerset	All municipalities	

(2) Hunterdon Land Trust	Hunterdon Open Space Plan Priority Areas	Hunterdon	All municipalities	\$286,000
(3) Lamington Conservancy	Central Lamington Project	Hunterdon	Readington Twp, Tewksbury Twp	\$450,000
		Morris	Chester Twp, Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp, Peapack-Gladstone Boro	
(4) New Jersey Conservation Foundation	Priority Area Acquisitions	Atlantic	Buena Vista Twp Egg Harbor City Egg Harbor Twp Estell Manor City Folsom Boro Galloway Twp Hamilton Twp Hammonton Town Mullica Twp Weymouth Twp	\$3,080,000
			Bass River Twp Beverly City Bordentown City Bordentown Twp Burlington City Burlington Twp Chesterfield Twp Cinnaminson Twp Delanco Twp Delran Twp Evesham Twp Fieldsboro Boro Florence Twp Mansfield Twp Medford Twp New Hanover Twp North Hanover Twp Pemberton Twp Shamong Twp Southampton Twp Springfield Twp Tabernacle Twp Washington Twp Woodland Twp	
			Camden Camden City Merchantville Boro Pennsauken Twp	
			Cape May Lower Twp Middle Twp	
			Cumberland Fairfield Twp Greenwich Twp Hopewell Twp Maurice River Twp Millville City Stow Creek Twp Upper Deerfield Twp Vineland City	
			Gloucester Franklin Twp Logan Twp South Harrison Twp Woolwich Twp	

Hunterdon	All municipalities
Mercer	East Windsor Twp Ewing Twp Hamilton Twp Hightstown Boro Hopewell Twp Lawrence Twp Trenton City Princeton Boro Robbinsville Twp West Windsor Twp
Middlesex	Cranbury Twp Edison Twp
Monmouth	Allentown Boro Millstone Twp Upper Freehold Twp
Morris	All municipalities
Ocean	Lacey Twp Ocean Twp Plumsted Twp
Passaic	West Milford Twp
Salem	Alloway Twp Carneys Point Twp Elmer Boro Elsinboro Twp Lower Alloways Creek Twp Mannington Twp Oldmans Twp Pennsville Twp Pilesgrove Twp Pittsgrove Twp Quinton Twp Upper Pittsgrove Twp Woodstown Boro
Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Montgomery Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro
Sussex	Andover Twp Byram Twp Frankford Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hopatcong Boro Sparta Twp Vernon Twp Wantage Twp

		Union	Elizabeth City Linden City Springfield Twp Union Twp	
		Warren	Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Franklin Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Greenwich Twp Hardwick Twp Harmony Twp Hope Twp Independence Twp Knowlton Twp Liberty Twp Lopatcong Twp Mansfield Twp Oxford Twp Pohatcong Twp Washington Twp White Twp	
(5) Raritan Headwaters Association	Raritan Headwaters Acquisitions	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp, Bethlehem Twp Califon Boro Clinton Town Clinton Twp Delaware Twp East Amwell Twp Flemington Boro Franklin Twp Glen Gardener Boro Hampton Twp High Bridge Boro Lebanon Boro Lebanon Twp Raritan Twp Readington Twp Tewksbury Twp Union Twp West Amwell Twp	\$1,259,000
		Morris	Chester Boro Chester Twp Mine Hill Twp Mendham Boro Mendham Twp Mt. Arlington Twp Mt. Olive Twp Randolph Twp Roxbury Twp Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro	

(6) Ridge and Valley Conservancy	Open Space Conservation Plan	Sussex	Andover Boro Andover Twp Frankford Twp Fredon Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hardyston Twp Lafayette Twp Sandyston Twp Sparta Twp Stillwater Twp Wantage Twp	\$69,000
		Warren	Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Hardwick Twp Hope Twp Knowlton Twp Mansfield Twp White Twp	
(7) Tewksbury Land Trust	Land Acquisition	Hunterdon	Tewksbury Twp	\$1,616,000
(8) Woodland Wildlife Refuge, Inc.	Preserving a Wildlife Heritage	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp	\$450,000
TOTAL				\$8,346,000

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2 d. The following projects for the development of lands for
3 recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with
4 the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:
5

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Branch Brook Park Alliance	Branch Brook Park Improvements	Essex	Newark City	\$1,082,000
Essex County Parks Foundation	Mills Reservation Improvements	Essex	Cedar Grove Twp	\$1,051,000
TOTAL				\$2,133,000

6
7 e. The following stewardship activity projects are eligible for
8 funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of
9 this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Friends of West Windsor Open Space	Moses Tunda Tatamy Trail	Mercer	West Windsor Twp	\$268,000
Friends of Passaic County Parks	Schuyler- Colfax Historic Landscape Restoration	Passaic	Wayne Twp	\$270,000
Duke Farms Foundation	Farm Barn Area Restoration Initiative	Somerset	Hillsborough Twp	\$543,000
PEACE NJ	Restoring Riparian Habitat and River Access	Warren	Hackettstown Town	\$399,000
TOTAL				\$1,480,000

1

2 f. Any transfer of any funds, or change in project sponsor, site,

3 or type, listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section shall require

4 the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its

5 successor.

6 g. To the extent that moneys remain available after the projects

7 listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section are offered funding

8 pursuant thereto, any project of a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit

9 organization that previously received funding appropriated or

10 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual

11 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation

12 Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes shall be

13 eligible to receive additional funding, as determined by the

14 Department of Environmental Protection, subject to the approval of

15 the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

16 h. There is reappropriated to the Department of Environmental

17 Protection the unexpended balances, due to project withdrawals,

18 cancellations, or cost savings, of the amounts appropriated or

19 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual

20 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation

21 Trust Fund to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations

22 to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation

23 purposes, for the purposes of: (1) this section; and (2) providing

24 additional funding, as determined by the Department of

25 Environmental Protection, to any project of a qualifying tax exempt

26 nonprofit organization that previously received funding

27 appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any

28 annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres

29 Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes,

30 subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or

31 its successor. Any such additional funding provided from a Green

32 Acres bond act may include administrative costs.

2. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$681,000 from dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for paying administrative costs associated with administering the applicable provisions of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

3. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$1,000,000 from dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), to establish a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which shall be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives in the State. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection e. of section 6 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48) or any other law to the contrary, the distribution of grant funds pursuant to this section shall not require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), the sum of \$13,640,000 to implement the provisions of this act.

5. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The bill appropriates \$13,640,000 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), of which \$11,959,000 is to provide grants to various nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, \$1,000,000 is to establish a new planning grant program, and \$681,000 is to be used by the DEP for associated administrative costs.

Of the amount appropriated by the bill to provide grants to various nonprofit entities: \$8,346,000 is allocated for eight acquisition projects; \$2,133,000 is allocated for two park development projects; and \$1,480,000 is allocated for four stewardship activity projects. In addition, the bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to the DEP in order to establish a new a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which would be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and

1 opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives
2 in the State.

3 The bill also would allow the DEP to re-distribute certain other
4 moneys, which have been returned to the department due to project
5 withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings, for the purpose of
6 providing additional funding, for recreation and conservation
7 purposes, to previously approved and funded projects of nonprofit
8 entities, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight
9 Committee. This additional funding, if provided from a Green
10 Acres bond act, may include administrative costs. The projects
11 listed in the bill have been approved by the DEP and the Garden
12 State Preservation Trust.

13 The funding in this bill is provided from constitutionally
14 dedicated corporation business tax (CBT) revenues pursuant to
15 Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution. The
16 “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.),
17 implements the constitutional dedication of CBT revenues for open
18 space, farmland, and historic preservation. The “Preserve New
19 Jersey Green Acres Fund” was established by section 6 of the
20 “Preserve New Jersey Act.” The act provides that a certain amount
21 of the portion of dedicated CBT revenues allocated each year for
22 the Green Acres program is to be used for: the acquisition of lands
23 for open space, including Blue Acres projects, and development
24 projects on State lands administered by the DEP’s Division of Fish
25 and Wildlife and Division of Parks and Forestry; grants and loans to
26 fund local government open space acquisition and development
27 projects; and grants to nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands
28 for recreation and conservation purposes.

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33 Appropriates \$13,640,000 to DEP from constitutionally
34 dedicated CBT revenues for grants to certain nonprofit entities for
35 open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects,
36 and for certain administrative expenses.

CHAPTER 169

AN ACT appropriating \$13,640,000 from constitutionally dedicated corporation business tax revenues to provide grants to assist qualifying tax-exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire, develop, or conduct planning activities related to, lands for recreation and conservation purposes, and for certain administrative expenses.

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

1. a. For the purposes of this section:

“Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund” means the fund established pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-19).

“Green Acres bond act” means P.L.2009, c.117, P.L.2007, c.119, P.L.1995, c.204, P.L.1992, c.88, P.L.1989, c.183, P.L.1987, c.265, and P.L.1983, c.354.

“Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” means the fund established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48).

“Stewardship activity” means the same as the term is defined in section 3 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-45).

b. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$11,959,000 from the dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for the purpose of providing grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to subsection c. of this section, to develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to subsection d. of this section, and to undertake stewardship activities pursuant to subsection e. of this section.

c. The following projects for the acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
(1) D & R Greenway Land Trust	Greenway Acquisitions	Burlington	Beverly City	\$1,136,000
			Bordentown City	
			Bordentown Twp	
			Burlington City	
			Burlington Twp	
			Chesterfield Twp	
			Cinnaminson Twp	
			Delanco Twp	
			Delran Twp	
			Edgewater Park Twp	
			Fieldsboro Boro	
			Florence Twp	
			Hainesport Twp	
			Mansfield Twp	
			Maple Shade Twp	
			Moorestown Twp	
			Mount Holly Twp	
			Mount Laurel Twp	
			Palmyra Boro	
			Riverside Twp	
			Riverton Boro	
			Springfield Twp	
			Westampton Twp	

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	Burlington Twp
	Chesterfield Twp
	Cinnaminson Twp
	Delanco Twp
	Delran Twp
	Evesham Twp
	Fieldsboro Boro
	Florence Twp
	Mansfield Twp
	Medford Twp
	New Hanover Twp
	North Hanover Twp
	Pemberton Twp
	Shamong Twp
	Southampton Twp
	Springfield Twp
	Tabernacle Twp
	Washington Twp
	Woodland Twp
Camden	Camden City
	Merchantville Boro
	Pennsauken Twp
Cape May	Lower Twp
	Middle Twp
Cumberland	Fairfield Twp
	Greenwich Twp
	Hopewell Twp
	Maurice River Twp
	Millville City
	Stow Creek Twp
	Upper Deerfield Twp
	Vineland City
Gloucester	Franklin Twp
	Logan Twp
	South Harrison Twp
	Woolwich Twp
Hunterdon	All municipalities
Mercer	East Windsor Twp
	Ewing Twp
	Hamilton Twp
	Hightstown Boro
	Hopewell Twp
	Lawrence Twp
	Trenton City
	Princeton Boro
	Robbinsville Twp
	West Windsor Twp
Middlesex	Cranbury Twp
	Edison Twp
Monmouth	Allentown Boro
	Millstone Twp
	Upper Freehold Twp
Morris	All municipalities
Ocean	Lacey Twp
	Ocean Twp
	Plumsted Twp
Passaic	West Milford Twp
Salem	Alloway Twp
	Carneys Point Twp
	Elmer Boro

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			Elsinboro Twp	
			Lower Alloways Creek Twp	
			Mannington Twp	
			Oldmans Twp	
			Pennsville Twp	
			Pilesgrove Twp	
			Pittsgrove Twp	
			Quinton Twp	
			Upper Pittsgrove Twp	
			Woodstown Boro	
	Somerset		Bedminster Twp	
			Bernards Twp	
			Bernardsville Boro	
			Branchburg Twp	
			Bridgewater Twp	
			Far Hills Boro	
			Hillsborough Twp	
			Montgomery Twp	
			Peapack-Gladstone Boro	
			Raritan Boro	
	Sussex		Andover Twp	
			Byram Twp	
			Frankford Twp	
			Green Twp	
			Hampton Twp	
			Hopatcong Boro	
			Sparta Twp	
			Vernon Twp	
			Wantage Twp	
	Union		Elizabeth City	
			Linden City	
			Springfield Twp	
			Union Twp	
	Warren		Allamuchy Twp	
			Blairstown Twp	
			Franklin Twp	
			Frelinghuysen Twp	
			Greenwich Twp	
			Hardwick Twp	
			Harmony Twp	
			Hope Twp	
			Independence Twp	
			Knowlton Twp	
			Liberty Twp	
			Lopatcong Twp	
			Mansfield Twp	
			Oxford Twp	
			Pohatcong Twp	
			Washington Twp	
			White Twp	
(5) Raritan Headwaters Association	Raritan Headwaters Acquisitions	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp	\$1,259,000
			Bethlehem Twp	
			Califon Boro	
			Clinton Town	
			Clinton Twp	
			Delaware Twp	
			East Amwell Twp	
			Flemington Boro	
			Franklin Twp	
			Glen Gardener Boro	

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			Hampton Twp	
			High Bridge Boro	
			Lebanon Boro	
			Lebanon Twp	
			Raritan Twp	
			Readington Twp	
			Tewksbury Twp	
			Union Twp	
			West Amwell Twp	
		Morris	Chester Boro	
			Chester Twp	
			Mine Hill Twp	
			Mendham Boro	
			Mendham Twp	
			Mt. Arlington Twp	
			Mt. Olive Twp	
			Randolph Twp	
			Roxbury Twp	
			Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp	
			Bernards Twp	
			Bernardsville Boro	
			Branchburg Twp	
			Bridgewater Twp	
			Far Hills Boro	
			Hillsborough Twp	
			Peapack-Gladstone Boro	
			Raritan Boro	
(6) Ridge and Valley Conservancy	Open Space Conservation Plan	Sussex	Andover Boro	\$69,000
			Andover Twp	
			Frankford Twp	
			Fredon Twp	
			Green Twp	
			Hampton Twp	
			Hardyston Twp	
			Lafayette Twp	
			Sandyston Twp	
			Sparta Twp	
			Stillwater Twp	
			Wantage Twp	
		Warren	Allamuchy Twp	
			Blairstown Twp	
			Frelinghuysen Twp	
			Hardwick Twp	
			Hope Twp	
			Knowlton Twp	
			Mansfield Twp	
			White Twp	
(7) Tewksbury Land Trust	Land Acquisition	Hunterdon	Tewksbury Twp	\$1,616,000
(8) Woodland Wildlife Refuge, Inc.	Preserving a Wildlife Heritage	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp	\$450,000
TOTAL				\$8,346,000

d. The following projects for the development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

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Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Branch Brook Park Alliance	Branch Brook Park Improvements	Essex	Newark City	\$1,082,000
Essex County Parks Foundation	Mills Reservation Improvements	Essex	Cedar Grove Twp	\$1,051,000
TOTAL				\$2,133,000

e. The following stewardship activity projects are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Friends of West Windsor Open Space	Moses Tunda Tatamy Trail	Mercer	West Windsor Twp	\$268,000
Friends of Passaic County Parks	Schuyler-Colfax Historic Landscape Restoration	Passaic	Wayne Twp	\$270,000
Duke Farms Foundation	Farm Barn Area Restoration Initiative	Somerset	Hillsborough Twp	\$543,000
PEACE NJ	Restoring Riparian Habitat and River Access	Warren	Hackettstown Town	\$399,000
TOTAL				\$1,480,000

f. Any transfer of any funds, or change in project sponsor, site, or type, listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section shall require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

g. To the extent that moneys remain available after the projects listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section are offered funding pursuant thereto, any project of a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization that previously received funding appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes shall be eligible to receive additional funding, as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

h. There is reappropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the unexpended balances, due to project withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings, of the amounts appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, for the purposes of: (1) this section; and (2) providing additional funding, as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection, to any project of a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organization that previously received funding appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor. Any such additional funding provided from a Green Acres bond act may include administrative costs.

2. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$681,000 from dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for paying administrative costs associated with administering the applicable provisions of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

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3. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$1,000,000 from dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), to establish a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which shall be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives in the State. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection e. of section 6 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48) or any other law to the contrary, the distribution of grant funds pursuant to this section shall not require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), the sum of \$13,640,000 to implement the provisions of this act.

5. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved December 19, 2025.

SENATE, No. 4569

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 2, 2025

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB SMITH

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblywoman MITCHELLE DRULIS

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

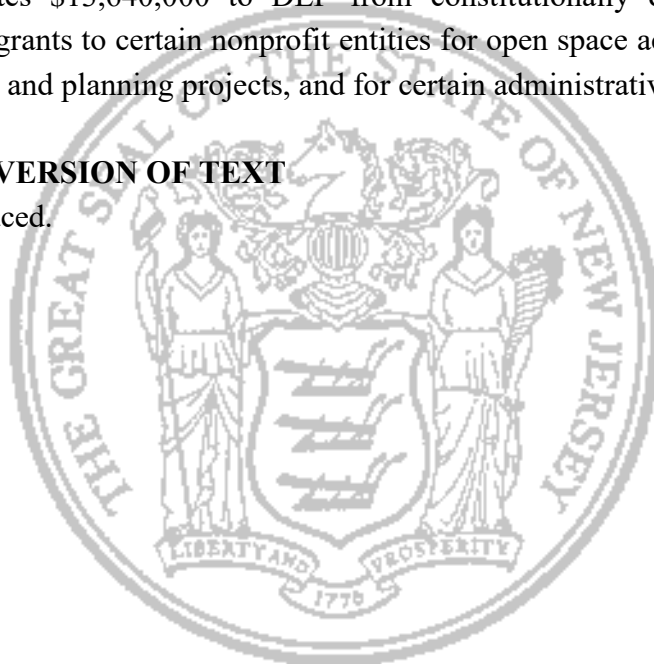
Senators Space, Ruiz and Assemblyman Freiman

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$13,640,000 to DEP from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for grants to certain nonprofit entities for open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects, and for certain administrative expenses.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/8/2025)

1 AN ACT appropriating \$13,640,000 from constitutionally dedicated
2 corporation business tax revenues to provide grants to assist
3 qualifying tax-exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire,
4 develop, or conduct planning activities related to, lands for
5 recreation and conservation purposes, and for certain
6 administrative expenses.

7
8 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
9 *of New Jersey:*

10

11 1. a. For the purposes of this section:

12 “Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund” means the
13 fund established pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1999, c.152
14 (C.13:8C-19).

15 “Green Acres bond act” means P.L.2009, c.117, P.L.2007, c.119,
16 P.L.1995, c.204, P.L.1992, c.88, P.L.1989, c.183, P.L.1987, c.265,
17 and P.L.1983, c.354.

18 “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” means the fund
19 established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,”
20 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48).

21 “Stewardship activity” means the same as the term is defined in
22 section 3 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12
23 (C.13:8C-45).

24 b. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
25 Protection the sum of \$11,959,000 from the dedicated corporation
26 business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph
27 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres
28 Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New
29 Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for the purpose of
30 providing grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit
31 organizations to acquire lands for recreation and conservation
32 purposes pursuant to subsection c. of this section, to develop lands
33 for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to subsection d.
34 of this section, and to undertake stewardship activities pursuant to
35 subsection e. of this section.

36 c. The following projects for the acquisition of lands for
37 recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with
38 the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
(1) D & R Greenway Land Trust	Greenway Acquisitions	Burlington	Beverly City	\$1,136,000
			Bordentown City	
			Bordentown Twp	
			Burlington City	
			Burlington Twp	
			Chesterfield Twp	
			Cinnaminson Twp	
			Delanco Twp	
			Delran Twp	
			Edgewater Park Twp	
			Fieldsboro Boro	
			Florence Twp	
			Hainesport Twp	
			Mansfield Twp	
			Maple Shade Twp	
			Moorestown Twp	
			Mount Holly Twp	
			Mount Laurel Twp	
			Palmyra Boro	
			Riverside Twp	
			Riverton Boro	
			Springfield Twp	
			Westampton Twp	
			Willingboro Twp	
		Camden	Audubon Boro	
			Audubon Park Boro	
			Brooklawn Boro	
			Camden City	
			Cherry Hill Twp	
			Collingswood Boro	
			Gloucester City	
			Haddon Heights Boro	
			Haddon Twp	
			Haddonfield Boro	
			Merchantville Boro	
			Mount Ephraim Boro	
			Oaklyn Boro	
			Pennsauken Twp	
			Woodlynne Boro	
		Cumberland	Deerfield Twp	
			Fairfield Twp	
			Greenwich Twp	
			Hopewell Twp	
			Stow Creek Twp	
			Upper Deerfield Twp	
		Gloucester	National Park Boro	
			West Deptford Twp	
			Westville Boro	
		Hunterdon	All municipalities	
		Mercer	All municipalities	
		Middlesex	All municipalities	
		Monmouth	All municipalities	
		Morris	All municipalities	
		Salem	Elsinboro Twp	
			Lower Alloways Creek Twp	
			Mannington Twp	
			Pennsville Twp	
		Somerset	All municipalities	

S4569 B.SMITH, SINGLETON

4

(2) Hunterdon Land Trust	Hunterdon Open Space Plan Priority Areas	Hunterdon	All municipalities	\$286,000
(3) Lamington Conservancy	Central Lamington Project	Hunterdon	Readington Twp, Tewksbury Twp	\$450,000
		Morris	Chester Twp, Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp, Peapack-Gladstone Boro	
(4) New Jersey Conservation Foundation	Priority Area Acquisitions	Atlantic	Buena Vista Twp Egg Harbor City Egg Harbor Twp Estell Manor City Folsom Boro Galloway Twp Hamilton Twp Hammonton Town Mullica Twp Weymouth Twp	\$3,080,000
			Bass River Twp Beverly City Bordentown City Bordentown Twp Burlington City Burlington Twp Chesterfield Twp Cinnaminson Twp Delanco Twp Delran Twp Evesham Twp Fieldsboro Boro Florence Twp Mansfield Twp Medford Twp New Hanover Twp North Hanover Twp Pemberton Twp Shamong Twp Southampton Twp Springfield Twp Tabernacle Twp Washington Twp Woodland Twp	
			Camden Camden City Merchantville Boro Pennsauken Twp	
			Cape May Lower Twp Middle Twp	
			Cumberland Fairfield Twp Greenwich Twp Hopewell Twp Maurice River Twp Millville City Stow Creek Twp Upper Deerfield Twp Vineland City	
			Gloucester Franklin Twp Logan Twp South Harrison Twp Woolwich Twp	

Hunterdon	All municipalities
Mercer	East Windsor Twp Ewing Twp Hamilton Twp Hightstown Boro Hopewell Twp Lawrence Twp Trenton City Princeton Boro Robbinsville Twp West Windsor Twp
Middlesex	Cranbury Twp Edison Twp
Monmouth	Allentown Boro Millstone Twp Upper Freehold Twp
Morris	All municipalities
Ocean	Lacey Twp Ocean Twp Plumsted Twp
Passaic	West Milford Twp
Salem	Alloway Twp Carneys Point Twp Elmer Boro Elsinboro Twp Lower Alloways Creek Twp Mannington Twp Oldmans Twp Pennsville Twp Pilesgrove Twp Pittsgrove Twp Quinton Twp Upper Pittsgrove Twp Woodstown Boro
Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Montgomery Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro
Sussex	Andover Twp Byram Twp Frankford Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hopatcong Boro Sparta Twp Vernon Twp Wantage Twp

		Union	Elizabeth City Linden City Springfield Twp Union Twp	
		Warren	Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Franklin Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Greenwich Twp Hardwick Twp Harmony Twp Hope Twp Independence Twp Knowlton Twp Liberty Twp Lopatcong Twp Mansfield Twp Oxford Twp Pohatcong Twp Washington Twp White Twp	
(5) Raritan Headwaters Association	Raritan Headwaters Acquisitions	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp, Bethlehem Twp Califon Boro Clinton Town Clinton Twp Delaware Twp East Amwell Twp Flemington Boro Franklin Twp Glen Gardener Boro Hampton Twp High Bridge Boro Lebanon Boro Lebanon Twp Raritan Twp Readington Twp Tewksbury Twp Union Twp West Amwell Twp	\$1,259,000
		Morris	Chester Boro Chester Twp Mine Hill Twp Mendham Boro Mendham Twp Mt. Arlington Twp Mt. Olive Twp Randolph Twp Roxbury Twp Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro	

(6) Ridge and Valley Conservancy	Open Space Conservation Plan	Sussex	Andover Boro Andover Twp Frankford Twp Fredon Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hardyston Twp Lafayette Twp Sandyston Twp Sparta Twp Stillwater Twp Wantage Twp	\$69,000
		Warren	Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Hardwick Twp Hope Twp Knowlton Twp Mansfield Twp White Twp	
(7) Tewksbury Land Trust	Land Acquisition	Hunterdon	Tewksbury Twp	\$1,616,000
(8) Woodland Wildlife Refuge, Inc.	Preserving a Wildlife Heritage	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp	\$450,000
TOTAL				\$8,346,000

d. The following projects for the development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Branch Brook Park Alliance	Branch Brook Park Improvements	Essex	Newark City	\$1,082,000
Essex County Parks Foundation	Mills Reservation Improvements	Essex	Cedar Grove Twp	\$1,051,000
TOTAL				\$2,133,000

e. The following stewardship activity projects are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Friends of West Windsor Open Space	Moses Tunda Tatamy Trail	Mercer	West Windsor Twp	\$268,000
Friends of Passaic County Parks	Schuyler- Colfax Historic Landscape Restoration	Passaic	Wayne Twp	\$270,000
Duke Farms Foundation	Farm Barn Area Restoration Initiative	Somerset	Hillsborough Twp	\$543,000
PEACE NJ	Restoring Riparian Habitat and River Access	Warren	Hackettstown Town	\$399,000
TOTAL				\$1,480,000

1

2 f. Any transfer of any funds, or change in project sponsor, site,

3 or type, listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section shall require

4 the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its

5 successor.

6 g. To the extent that moneys remain available after the projects

7 listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section are offered funding

8 pursuant thereto, any project of a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit

9 organization that previously received funding appropriated or

10 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual

11 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation

12 Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes shall be

13 eligible to receive additional funding, as determined by the

14 Department of Environmental Protection, subject to the approval of

15 the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

16 h. There is reappropriated to the Department of Environmental

17 Protection the unexpended balances, due to project withdrawals,

18 cancellations, or cost savings, of the amounts appropriated or

19 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual

20 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation

21 Trust Fund to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations

22 to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation

23 purposes, for the purposes of: (1) this section; and (2) providing

24 additional funding, as determined by the Department of

25 Environmental Protection, to any project of a qualifying tax exempt

26 nonprofit organization that previously received funding

27 appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any

28 annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres

29 Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes,

30 subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or

31 its successor. Any such additional funding provided from a Green

32 Acres bond act may include administrative costs.

2. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$681,000 from dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for paying administrative costs associated with administering the applicable provisions of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

3. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$1,000,000 from dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), to establish a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which shall be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives in the State. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection e. of section 6 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48) or any other law to the contrary, the distribution of grant funds pursuant to this section shall not require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), the sum of \$13,640,000 to implement the provisions of this act.

5. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The bill appropriates \$13,640,000 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), of which \$11,959,000 is to provide grants to various nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, \$1,000,000 is to establish a new planning grant program, and \$681,000 is to be used by the DEP for associated administrative costs.

Of the amount appropriated by the bill to provide grants to various nonprofit entities: \$8,346,000 is allocated for eight acquisition projects; \$2,133,000 is allocated for two park development projects; and \$1,480,000 is allocated for four stewardship activity projects. In addition, the bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to the DEP in order to establish a new a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which would be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and

1 opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives
2 in the State.

3 The bill also would allow the DEP to re-distribute certain other
4 moneys, which have been returned to the department due to project
5 withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings, for the purpose of
6 providing additional funding, for recreation and conservation
7 purposes, to previously approved and funded projects of nonprofit
8 entities, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight
9 Committee. This additional funding, if provided from a Green
10 Acres bond act, may include administrative costs. The projects
11 listed in the bill have been approved by the DEP and the Garden
12 State Preservation Trust.

13 The funding in this bill is provided from constitutionally
14 dedicated corporation business tax (CBT) revenues pursuant to
15 Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution. The
16 “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.),
17 implements the constitutional dedication of CBT revenues for open
18 space, farmland, and historic preservation. The “Preserve New
19 Jersey Green Acres Fund” was established by section 6 of the
20 “Preserve New Jersey Act.” The act provides that a certain amount
21 of the portion of dedicated CBT revenues allocated each year for
22 the Green Acres program is to be used for: the acquisition of lands
23 for open space, including Blue Acres projects, and development
24 projects on State lands administered by the DEP’s Division of Fish
25 and Wildlife and Division of Parks and Forestry; grants and loans to
26 fund local government open space acquisition and development
27 projects; and grants to nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands
28 for recreation and conservation purposes.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 4569

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 9, 2025

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 4569.

As reported, the bill appropriates \$13,640,000 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), of which \$11,959,000 is to provide grants to various nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, \$1,000,000 is to establish a new planning grant program, and \$681,000 is to be used by the DEP for associated administrative costs.

Of the amount appropriated by the bill to provide grants to various nonprofit entities: \$8,346,000 is allocated for eight acquisition projects; \$2,133,000 is allocated for two park development projects; and \$1,480,000 is allocated for four stewardship activity projects. In addition, the bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to the DEP in order to establish a new a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which would be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives in the State.

The bill also would allow the DEP to re-distribute certain other moneys, which have been returned to the department due to project withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings, for the purpose of providing additional funding, for recreation and conservation purposes, to previously approved and funded projects of nonprofit entities, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee. This additional funding, if provided from a Green Acres bond act, may include administrative costs. The projects listed in the bill have been approved by the DEP and the Garden State Preservation Trust.

The funding in this bill is provided from constitutionally dedicated corporation business tax (CBT) revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution. The “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.), implements the constitutional dedication of CBT revenues for open space, farmland, and historic preservation. The “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” was established by section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act.” The act provides that a certain amount of the portion of dedicated CBT revenues allocated each year for the Green Acres program is to be used for: the acquisition of lands for open space, including Blue Acres

projects, and development projects on State lands administered by the DEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife and Division of Parks and Forestry; grants and loans to fund local government open space acquisition and development projects; and grants to nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5864

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 19, 2025

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman MITCHELLE DRULIS

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$13,640,000 to DEP from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for grants to certain nonprofit entities for open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects, and for certain administrative expenses.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** appropriating \$13,640,000 from constitutionally dedicated
2 corporation business tax revenues to provide grants to assist
3 qualifying tax-exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire,
4 develop, or conduct planning activities related to, lands for
5 recreation and conservation purposes, and for certain
6 administrative expenses.

7
8 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
9 *of New Jersey:*

10
11 1. a. For the purposes of this section:
12 “Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund” means the
13 fund established pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1999, c.152
14 (C.13:8C-19).

15 “Green Acres bond act” means P.L.2009, c.117, P.L.2007, c.119,
16 P.L.1995, c.204, P.L.1992, c.88, P.L.1989, c.183, P.L.1987, c.265,
17 and P.L.1983, c.354.

18 “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” means the fund
19 established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,”
20 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48).

21 “Stewardship activity” means the same as the term is defined in
22 section 3 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12
23 (C.13:8C-45).

24 b. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
25 Protection the sum of \$11,959,000 from the dedicated corporation
26 business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph
27 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres
28 Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New
29 Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for the purpose of
30 providing grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit
31 organizations to acquire lands for recreation and conservation
32 purposes pursuant to subsection c. of this section, to develop lands
33 for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to subsection d.
34 of this section, and to undertake stewardship activities pursuant to
35 subsection e. of this section.

36 c. The following projects for the acquisition of lands for
37 recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with
38 the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

39

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
(1) D & R Greenway Land Trust	Greenway Acquisitions	Burlington	Beverly City Bordentown City Bordentown Twp Burlington City Burlington Twp Chesterfield Twp Cinnaminson Twp Delanco Twp Delran Twp	\$1,136,000

			Edgewater Park Twp	
			Fieldsboro Boro	
			Florence Twp	
			Hainesport Twp	
			Mansfield Twp	
			Maple Shade Twp	
			Moorestown Twp	
			Mount Holly Twp	
			Mount Laurel Twp	
			Palmyra Boro	
			Riverside Twp	
			Riverton Boro	
			Springfield Twp	
			Westampton Twp	
			Willingboro Twp	
		Camden	Audubon Boro	
			Audubon Park Boro	
			Brooklawn Boro	
			Camden City	
			Cherry Hill Twp	
			Collingswood Boro	
			Gloucester City	
			Haddon Heights Boro	
			Haddon Twp	
			Haddonfield Boro	
			Merchantville Boro	
			Mount Ephraim Boro	
			Oaklyn Boro	
			Pennsauken Twp	
			Woodlynne Boro	
		Cumberland	Deerfield Twp	
			Fairfield Twp	
			Greenwich Twp	
			Hopewell Twp	
			Stow Creek Twp	
			Upper Deerfield Twp	
		Gloucester	National Park Boro	
			West Deptford Twp	
			Westville Boro	
		Hunterdon	All municipalities	
		Mercer	All municipalities	
		Middlesex	All municipalities	
		Monmouth	All municipalities	
		Morris	All municipalities	
		Salem	Elsinboro Twp	
			Lower Alloways Creek Twp	
			Mannington Twp	
			Pennsville Twp	
		Somerset	All municipalities	
(2) Hunterdon Land Trust	Hunterdon Open Space Plan Priority Areas	Hunterdon	All municipalities	\$286,000

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(3) Lamington Conservancy	Central Lamington Project	Hunterdon	Readington Twp, Tewksbury Twp	\$450,000
		Morris	Chester Twp, Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp, Peapack-Gladstone Boro	
(4) New Jersey Conservation Foundation	Priority Area Acquisitions	Atlantic	Buena Vista Twp Egg Harbor City Egg Harbor Twp Estell Manor City Folsom Boro Galloway Twp Hamilton Twp Hammonton Town Mullica Twp Weymouth Twp	\$3,080,000
		Burlington	Bass River Twp Beverly City Bordentown City Bordentown Twp Burlington City Burlington Twp Chesterfield Twp Cinnaminson Twp Delanco Twp Delran Twp Evesham Twp Fieldsboro Boro Florence Twp Mansfield Twp Medford Twp New Hanover Twp North Hanover Twp Pemberton Twp Shamong Twp Southampton Twp Springfield Twp Tabernacle Twp Washington Twp Woodland Twp	
		Camden	Camden City Merchantville Boro Pennsauken Twp	
		Cape May	Lower Twp Middle Twp	
		Cumberland	Fairfield Twp Greenwich Twp Hopewell Twp Maurice River Twp Millville City Stow Creek Twp Upper Deerfield Twp Vineland City	
		Gloucester	Franklin Twp Logan Twp South Harrison Twp Woolwich Twp	

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Hunterdon	All municipalities
Mercer	East Windsor Twp Ewing Twp Hamilton Twp Hightstown Boro Hopewell Twp Lawrence Twp Trenton City Princeton Boro Robbinsville Twp West Windsor Twp
Middlesex	Cranbury Twp Edison Twp
Monmouth	Allentown Boro Millstone Twp Upper Freehold Twp
Morris	All municipalities
Ocean	Lacey Twp Ocean Twp Plumsted Twp
Passaic	West Milford Twp
Salem	Alloway Twp Carneys Point Twp Elmer Boro Elsinboro Twp Lower Alloways Creek Twp Mannington Twp Oldmans Twp Pennsville Twp Pilesgrove Twp Pittsgrove Twp Quinton Twp Upper Pittsgrove Twp Woodstown Boro
Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Montgomery Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro
Sussex	Andover Twp Byram Twp Frankford Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hopatcong Boro Sparta Twp Vernon Twp Wantage Twp
Union	Elizabeth City Linden City Springfield Twp Union Twp

		Warren	Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Franklin Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Greenwich Twp Hardwick Twp Harmony Twp Hope Twp Independence Twp Knowlton Twp Liberty Twp Lopatcong Twp Mansfield Twp Oxford Twp Pohatcong Twp Washington Twp White Twp	
(5) Raritan Headwaters Association	Raritan Headwaters Acquisitions	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp, Bethlehem Twp Califon Boro Clinton Town Clinton Twp Delaware Twp East Amwell Twp Flemington Boro Franklin Twp Glen Gardener Boro Hampton Twp High Bridge Boro Lebanon Boro Lebanon Twp Raritan Twp Readington Twp Tewksbury Twp Union Twp West Amwell Twp	\$1,259,000
		Morris	Chester Boro Chester Twp Mine Hill Twp Mendham Boro Mendham Twp Mt. Arlington Twp Mt. Olive Twp Randolph Twp Roxbury Twp Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro	
(6) Ridge and Valley Conservancy	Open Space Conservation Plan	Sussex	Andover Boro Andover Twp Frankford Twp Fredon Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hardyston Twp Lafayette Twp Sandyston Twp Sparta Twp	\$69,000

			Stillwater Twp Wantage Twp	
Warren			Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Hardwick Twp Hope Twp Knowlton Twp Mansfield Twp White Twp	
(7) Tewksbury Land Trust	Land Acquisition	Hunterdon	Tewksbury Twp	\$1,616,000
(8) Woodland Wildlife Refuge, Inc.	Preserving a Wildlife Heritage	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp	\$450,000
TOTAL				\$8,346,000

d. The following projects for the development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Branch Brook Park Alliance	Branch Brook Park Improvements	Essex	Newark City	\$1,082,000
Essex County Parks Foundation	Mills Reservation Improvements	Essex	Cedar Grove Twp	\$1,051,000
TOTAL				\$2,133,000

e. The following stewardship activity projects are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Friends of West Windsor Open Space	Moses Tunda Tatamy Trail	Mercer	West Windsor Twp	\$268,000
Friends of Passaic County Parks	Schuyler- Colfax Historic Landscape Restoration	Passaic	Wayne Twp	\$270,000
Duke Farms Foundation	Farm Barn Area Restoration Initiative	Somerset	Hillsborough Twp	\$543,000

PEACE NJ	Restoring Riparian Habitat and River Access	Warren	Hackettstown Town	\$399,000
TOTAL				\$1,480,000

1

2 f. Any transfer of any funds, or change in project sponsor, site,

3 or type, listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section shall require

4 the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its

5 successor.

6 g. To the extent that moneys remain available after the projects

7 listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section are offered funding

8 pursuant thereto, any project of a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit

9 organization that previously received funding appropriated or

10 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual

11 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation

12 Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes shall be

13 eligible to receive additional funding, as determined by the

14 Department of Environmental Protection, subject to the approval of

15 the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

16 h. There is reappropriated to the Department of Environmental

17 Protection the unexpended balances, due to project withdrawals,

18 cancellations, or cost savings, of the amounts appropriated or

19 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual

20 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation

21 Trust Fund to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations

22 to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation

23 purposes, for the purposes of: (1) this section; and (2) providing

24 additional funding, as determined by the Department of

25 Environmental Protection, to any project of a qualifying tax exempt

26 nonprofit organization that previously received funding

27 appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any

28 annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres

29 Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes,

30 subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or

31 its successor. Any such additional funding provided from a Green

32 Acres bond act may include administrative costs.

33

34 2. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental

35 Protection the sum of \$681,000 from dedicated corporation business

36 tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the

37 State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,”

38 established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,”

39 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for paying administrative costs

40 associated with administering the applicable provisions of

41 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

3. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the sum of \$1,000,000 from dedicated corporation business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), to establish a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which shall be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives in the State. In accordance with the provisions of subsection e. of section 6 of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), any distribution of grant funds pursuant to this section shall require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), the sum of \$13,640,000 to implement the provisions of this act.

22 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

27 The bill appropriates \$13,640,000 to the Department of
28 Environmental Protection (DEP), of which \$11,959,000 is to
29 provide grants to various nonprofit entities to acquire or develop
30 lands for recreation and conservation purposes, \$1,000,000 is to
31 establish a new planning grant program, and \$681,000 is to be used
32 by the DEP for associated administrative costs.

Of the amount appropriated by the bill to provide grants to various nonprofit entities: \$8,346,000 is allocated for eight acquisition projects; \$2,133,000 is allocated for two park development projects; and \$1,480,000 is allocated for four stewardship activity projects. In addition, the bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to the DEP in order to establish a new a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which would be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives in the State. The bill would require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee (JBOC) for any grant funds distributed under the program.

46 The bill also would allow the DEP to re-distribute certain other
47 moneys, which have been returned to the department due to project
48 withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings, for the purpose of

1 providing additional funding, for recreation and conservation
2 purposes, to previously approved and funded projects of nonprofit
3 entities, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight
4 Committee. This additional funding, if provided from a Green
5 Acres bond act, may include administrative costs. The projects
6 listed in the bill have been approved by the DEP and the Garden
7 State Preservation Trust.

8 The funding in this bill is provided from constitutionally
9 dedicated corporation business tax (CBT) revenues pursuant to
10 Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution. The
11 “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.),
12 implements the constitutional dedication of CBT revenues for open
13 space, farmland, and historic preservation. The “Preserve New
14 Jersey Green Acres Fund” was established by section 6 of the
15 “Preserve New Jersey Act.” The act provides that a certain amount
16 of the portion of dedicated CBT revenues allocated each year for
17 the Green Acres program is to be used for: the acquisition of lands
18 for open space, including Blue Acres projects, and development
19 projects on State lands administered by the DEP’s Division of Fish
20 and Wildlife and Division of Parks and Forestry; grants and loans to
21 fund local government open space acquisition and development
22 projects; and grants to nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands
23 for recreation and conservation purposes.

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5864

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 19, 2025

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman MITCHELLE DRULIS

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

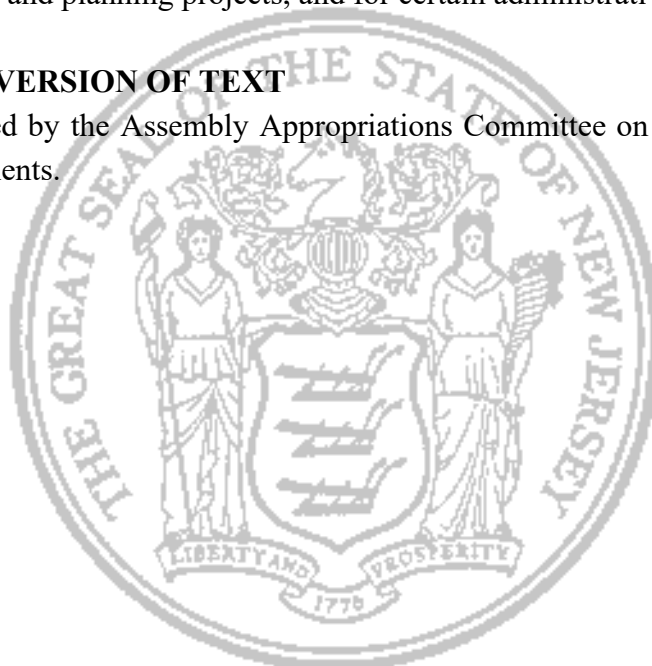
Assemblyman Freiman

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$13,640,000 to DEP from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for grants to certain nonprofit entities for open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects, and for certain administrative expenses.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on June 19, 2025, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/4/2025)

1 AN ACT appropriating \$13,640,000 from constitutionally dedicated
2 corporation business tax revenues to provide grants to assist
3 qualifying tax-exempt nonprofit organizations to acquire,
4 develop, or conduct planning activities related to, lands for
5 recreation and conservation purposes, and for certain
6 administrative expenses.

7
8 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
9 *of New Jersey:*

10
11 1. a. For the purposes of this section:

12 “Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund” means the
13 fund established pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1999, c.152
14 (C.13:8C-19).

15 “Green Acres bond act” means P.L.2009, c.117, P.L.2007, c.119,
16 P.L.1995, c.204, P.L.1992, c.88, P.L.1989, c.183, P.L.1987, c.265,
17 and P.L.1983, c.354.

18 “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” means the fund
19 established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,”
20 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48).

21 “Stewardship activity” means the same as the term is defined in
22 section 3 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12
23 (C.13:8C-45).

24 b. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
25 Protection the sum of \$11,959,000 from the dedicated corporation
26 business tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph
27 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres
28 Fund,” established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New
29 Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for the purpose of
30 providing grants to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit
31 organizations to acquire lands for recreation and conservation
32 purposes pursuant to subsection c. of this section, to develop lands
33 for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to subsection d.
34 of this section, and to undertake stewardship activities pursuant to
35 subsection e. of this section.

36 c. The following projects for the acquisition of lands for
37 recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with
38 the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted June 19, 2025.

1

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
(1) D & R Greenway Land Trust	Greenway Acquisitions	Burlington	Beverly City	\$1,136,000
			Bordentown City	
			Bordentown Twp	
			Burlington City	
			Burlington Twp	
			Chesterfield Twp	
			Cinnaminson Twp	
			Delanco Twp	
			Delran Twp	
			Edgewater Park Twp	
			Fieldsboro Boro	
			Florence Twp	
			Hainesport Twp	
			Mansfield Twp	
			Maple Shade Twp	
			Moorestown Twp	
			Mount Holly Twp	
			Mount Laurel Twp	
			Palmyra Boro	
			Riverside Twp	
			Riverton Boro	
			Springfield Twp	
			Westampton Twp	
			Willingboro Twp	
		Camden	Audubon Boro	
			Audubon Park Boro	
			Brooklawn Boro	
			Camden City	
			Cherry Hill Twp	
			Collingswood Boro	
			Gloucester City	
			Haddon Heights Boro	
			Haddon Twp	
			Haddonfield Boro	
			Merchantville Boro	
			Mount Ephraim Boro	
			Oaklyn Boro	
			Pennsauken Twp	
			Woodlynne Boro	
		Cumberland	Deerfield Twp	
			Fairfield Twp	
			Greenwich Twp	
			Hopewell Twp	
			Stow Creek Twp	
			Upper Deerfield Twp	
		Gloucester	National Park Boro	
			West Deptford Twp	
			Westville Boro	
		Hunterdon	All municipalities	
		Mercer	All municipalities	
		Middlesex	All municipalities	
		Monmouth	All municipalities	
		Morris	All municipalities	
		Salem	Elsinboro Twp	

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			Lower Alloways Creek Twp Mannington Twp Pennsville Twp	
		Somerset	All municipalities	
(2) Hunterdon Land Trust	Hunterdon Open Space Plan Priority Areas	Hunterdon	All municipalities	\$286,000
(3) Lamington Conservancy	Central Lamington Project	Hunterdon	Readington Twp, Tewksbury Twp	\$450,000
		Morris	Chester Twp, Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp, Peapack-Gladstone Boro	
(4) New Jersey Conservation Foundation	Priority Area Acquisitions	Atlantic	Buena Vista Twp Egg Harbor City Egg Harbor Twp Estell Manor City Folsom Boro Galloway Twp Hamilton Twp Hammonton Town Mullica Twp Weymouth Twp	\$3,080,000
		Burlington	Bass River Twp Beverly City Bordentown City Bordentown Twp Burlington City Burlington Twp Chesterfield Twp Cinnaminson Twp Delanco Twp Delran Twp Evesham Twp Fieldsboro Boro Florence Twp Mansfield Twp Medford Twp New Hanover Twp North Hanover Twp Pemberton Twp Shamong Twp Southampton Twp Springfield Twp Tabernacle Twp Washington Twp Woodland Twp	
		Camden	Camden City Merchantville Boro Pennsauken Twp	
		Cape May	Lower Twp Middle Twp	

Cumberland	Fairfield Twp Greenwich Twp Hopewell Twp Maurice River Twp Millville City Stow Creek Twp Upper Deerfield Twp Vineland City
Gloucester	Franklin Twp Logan Twp South Harrison Twp Woolwich Twp
Hunterdon	All municipalities
Mercer	East Windsor Twp Ewing Twp Hamilton Twp Hightstown Boro Hopewell Twp Lawrence Twp Trenton City Princeton Boro Robbinsville Twp West Windsor Twp
Middlesex	Cranbury Twp Edison Twp
Monmouth	Allentown Boro Millstone Twp Upper Freehold Twp
Morris	All municipalities
Ocean	Lacey Twp Ocean Twp Plumsted Twp
Passaic	West Milford Twp
Salem	Alloway Twp Carneys Point Twp Elmer Boro Elsinboro Twp Lower Alloways Creek Twp Mannington Twp Oldmans Twp Pennsville Twp Pilesgrove Twp Pittsgrove Twp Quinton Twp Upper Pittsgrove Twp Woodstown Boro
Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Montgomery Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro

		Sussex	Andover Twp Byram Twp Frankford Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hopatcong Boro Sparta Twp Vernon Twp Wantage Twp	
		Union	Elizabeth City Linden City Springfield Twp Union Twp	
		Warren	Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Franklin Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Greenwich Twp Hardwick Twp Harmony Twp Hope Twp Independence Twp Knowlton Twp Liberty Twp Lopatcong Twp Mansfield Twp Oxford Twp Pohatcong Twp Washington Twp White Twp	
(5) Raritan Headwaters Association	Raritan Headwaters Acquisitions	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp, Bethlehem Twp Califon Boro Clinton Town Clinton Twp Delaware Twp East Amwell Twp Flemington Boro Franklin Twp Glen Gardener Boro Hampton Twp High Bridge Boro Lebanon Boro Lebanon Twp Raritan Twp Readington Twp Tewksbury Twp Union Twp West Amwell Twp	\$1,259,000
		Morris	Chester Boro Chester Twp Mine Hill Twp Mendham Boro Mendham Twp Mt. Arlington Twp Mt. Olive Twp Randolph Twp Roxbury Twp Washington Twp	
		Somerset	Bedminster Twp Bernards Twp Bernardsville Boro Branchburg Twp Bridgewater Twp	

		Far Hills Boro Hillsborough Twp Peapack-Gladstone Boro Raritan Boro		
(6) Ridge and Valley Conservancy	Open Space Conservation Plan	Sussex	Andover Boro Andover Twp Frankford Twp Fredon Twp Green Twp Hampton Twp Hardyston Twp Lafayette Twp Sandyston Twp Sparta Twp Stillwater Twp Wantage Twp	\$69,000
		Warren	Allamuchy Twp Blairstown Twp Frelinghuysen Twp Hardwick Twp Hope Twp Knowlton Twp Mansfield Twp White Twp	
(7) Tewksbury Land Trust	Land Acquisition	Hunterdon	Tewksbury Twp	\$1,616,000
(8) Woodland Wildlife Refuge, Inc.	Preserving a Wildlife Heritage	Hunterdon	Alexandria Twp	\$450,000
TOTAL				\$8,346,000

d. The following projects for the development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Branch Brook Park Alliance	Branch Brook Park Improvements	Essex	Newark City	\$1,082,000
Essex County Parks Foundation	Mills Reservation Improvements	Essex	Cedar Grove Twp	\$1,051,000
TOTAL				\$2,133,000

e. The following stewardship activity projects are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to subsection b. of this section:

1

Nonprofit Organization	Project	County	Municipality	Approved Amount
Friends of West Windsor Open Space	Moses Tunda Tatamy Trail	Mercer	West Windsor Twp	\$268,000
Friends of Passaic County Parks	Schuyler- Colfax Historic Landscape Restoration	Passaic	Wayne Twp	\$270,000
Duke Farms Foundation	Farm Barn Area Restoration Initiative	Somerset	Hillsborough Twp	\$543,000
PEACE NJ	Restoring Riparian Habitat and River Access	Warren	Hackettstown Town	\$399,000
TOTAL				\$1,480,000

2

3 f. Any transfer of any funds, or change in project sponsor, site,
4 or type, listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section shall require
5 the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its
6 successor.

7 g. To the extent that moneys remain available after the projects
8 listed in subsection c., d., or e. of this section are offered funding
9 pursuant thereto, any project of a qualifying tax exempt nonprofit
10 organization that previously received funding appropriated or
11 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual
12 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation
13 Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes shall be
14 eligible to receive additional funding, as determined by the
15 Department of Environmental Protection, subject to the approval of
16 the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

17 h. There is reappropriated to the Department of Environmental
18 Protection the unexpended balances, due to project withdrawals,
19 cancellations, or cost savings, of the amounts appropriated or
20 reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual
21 appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation
22 Trust Fund to assist qualifying tax exempt nonprofit organizations
23 to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation
24 purposes, for the purposes of: (1) this section; and (2) providing
25 additional funding, as determined by the Department of
26 Environmental Protection, to any project of a qualifying tax exempt
27 nonprofit organization that previously received funding
28 appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any
29 annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres

1 Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes,
2 subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or
3 its successor. Any such additional funding provided from a Green
4 Acres bond act may include administrative costs.

5
6 2. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
7 Protection the sum of \$681,000 from dedicated corporation business
8 tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the
9 State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,”
10 established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,”
11 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), for paying administrative costs
12 associated with administering the applicable provisions of
13 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

14
15 3. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
16 Protection the sum of \$1,000,000 from dedicated corporation business
17 tax revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the
18 State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,”
19 established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,”
20 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48), to establish a Planning Grant program,
21 the purpose of which shall be to provide matching grants to nonprofit
22 organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities
23 necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation
24 and conservation initiatives in the State. ¹**[In accordance with]**
25 Notwithstanding¹ the provisions of subsection e. of section 6 of
26 P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48) ¹or any other law to the contrary¹,
27 ¹**[any]** the¹ distribution of grant funds pursuant to this section shall
28 ¹not¹ require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

29
30 4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
31 “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund,” established pursuant to
32 section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12
33 (C.13:8C-48), the sum of \$13,640,000 to implement the provisions
34 of this act.

35
36 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5864

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 19, 2025

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 5864.

As amended and reported, the bill appropriates \$13,640,000 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), of which \$11,959,000 is to provide grants to various nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, \$1,000,000 is to establish a new planning grant program, and \$681,000 is to be used by the DEP for associated administrative costs.

Of the amount appropriated by the bill to provide grants to various nonprofit entities: \$8,346,000 is allocated for eight acquisition projects; \$2,133,000 is allocated for two park development projects; and \$1,480,000 is allocated for four stewardship activity projects. In addition, the bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to the DEP in order to establish a new a Planning Grant program, the purpose of which would be to provide matching grants to nonprofit organizations to fund the preparation of plans and other activities necessary to identify needs and opportunities for additional recreation and conservation initiatives in the State.

The bill also would allow the DEP to re-distribute certain other moneys, which have been returned to the department due to project withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings, for the purpose of providing additional funding, for recreation and conservation purposes, to previously approved and funded projects of nonprofit entities, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee (JBOC). This additional funding, if provided from a Green Acres bond act, may include administrative costs. The projects listed in the bill have been approved by the DEP and the Garden State Preservation Trust.

The funding in this bill is provided from constitutionally dedicated corporation business tax (CBT) revenues pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution. The “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.), implements the constitutional dedication of CBT revenues for open space, farmland, and historic preservation. The “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” was established by section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act.” The act provides that a certain amount of the portion of dedicated CBT revenues allocated each year for the Green Acres program is to be used

for: the acquisition of lands for open space, including Blue Acres projects, and development projects on State lands administered by the DEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife and Division of Parks and Forestry; grants and loans to fund local government open space acquisition and development projects; and grants to nonprofit entities to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments to the bill provide that JBOC approval is not required for grants issued under the Planning Grant program established under the bill.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

Posted on - 12/19/2025

TRENTON – Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law, with the Governor's recommendation following concurrences by the legislature:

S-1447/A-4053 (Singleton/Lopez, Speight) - Transfers New Jersey Historic Trust from Department of State to DCA and makes certain changes related to trustees and powers

S-2038/A-3581 (Gopal, Cryan/Carter, Quijano) - Requires public institution of higher education to post certain information on institution's website

S-3153/A-4543 (Ruiz, Cryan/Haider, Speight, Sumter) - Prohibits DCF from using federal benefits received by a child in out of home placement to reimburse State for cost of child's care, except under certain circumstances

S-4400/A-5547 (Johnson, Turner/Verrelli) - Extends hours that minor employed by national sports association, league, or team may work under certain circumstances

S-4472/A-5859 (Lagana, Wimberly/Abdelaziz, Tully, Collazos-Gill) - Eliminates five percent down payment requirement for local bond ordinances involving hazard mitigation and resilience projects

S-4524/A-5862 (Turner, Testa/Bailey, Miller, Freiman) - Appropriates \$34 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for county planning incentive grants for farmland preservation purposes

S-4531/A-5861 (Burzichelli, Testa/Egan, Katz, Donlon) - Appropriates \$52,798,268 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues and other farmland preservation funds to State Agriculture Development Committee for farmland preservation purposes

S-4551/A-5865 (Beach, Space/Bagolie, Calabrese, Spearman) - Appropriates \$3,750,990 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for grants to certain nonprofit organizations for farmland preservation purposes

S-4566/A-5863 (Cruz-Perez/Hutchison, Park, Bailey) - Appropriates \$500,000 from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to State Agriculture Development Committee for municipal planning incentive grants for farmland preservation purposes

S-4569/A-5864 (Smith, Singleton/Drulis, Reynolds-Jackson, Moen) - Appropriates \$13,640,000 to DEP from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues for grants to certain nonprofit entities for open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects, and for certain administrative expenses

SJR-100/AJR-150 (Singleton/Venezia, Sumter) - Designates July of each year as "Cleft and Craniofacial Awareness and Prevention Month" in NJ

A-3802wGR/S-3061 (Reynolds-Jackson, Wimberly, Freiman/Burgess, Pennacchio) - Differentiates certain legal services from traditional insurance products

A-4331wGR/S-3227 (Speight, Atkins, Bagolie/McKnight, Turner) - Establishes licensure for cosmetic retail services

A-4712wGR/S-3504 (Tucker, Marengo/Cryan, Vitale, Johnson) - Establishes Office of Veteran Advocate and ombudsman for DMVA; appropriates funds

A-5130wGR/S-4128 (Schnall, Karabinchak, Calabrese/Moriarty, Wimberly) - Requires enforcing agency to conduct inspection of construction in specified time window

A-5264wGR/S-4100 (Karabinchak, Haider, Spearman/McKeon, Greenstein) - Requires establishment of automated platform to expedite construction code approval of applications to install residential solar energy systems

A-5309wGR/S-4147 (Simmons, Freiman, Donlon/Burzichelli, McKnight) - Permits up to three credits of continuing medical education on menopause to be used by nurses and physicians for license renewal

A-5854wGR/S-4614 (Azzariti/Schepisi, Sarlo) - Allows certain motor vehicle franchisors to sell, lease, or assign vehicles to employees