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No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:**

Yes

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:**

No

**HEARINGS:**

No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:**

Yes

"Guadagno Signs Three Bills for Bees," northjersey.com, 7-31-15

"Guadagno Signs Bee Measures," The Press of Atlantic City, 8-1-15

LAW

P.L.2015, CHAPTER 77, *approved July 31, 2015*  
Assembly, No. 1296

1 AN ACT concerning man-made bee hives, and supplementing Title 4  
2 of the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. a. Any person who intentionally destroys a man-made  
8 native bee hive shall be liable to a civil penalty of up to \$500 for  
9 each offense.

10 b. Any penalty imposed pursuant to subsection a. of this  
11 section shall be collected in a civil action by a summary proceeding  
12 under the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274  
13 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.) or in any case before a court of competent  
14 jurisdiction wherein injunctive relief has been requested. The  
15 Superior Court and municipal court shall have jurisdiction to  
16 enforce the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999" in connection with  
17 this act. If the violation is of a continuing nature, each day during  
18 which it continues shall constitute an additional, separate and  
19 distinct offense. Penalties recovered for violations of this section  
20 shall be remitted to the Department of Agriculture and expended on  
21 programs to manage or revive honey bee or native bee populations  
22 in the State.

23 c. As used in this section:

24 "Man-made native bee hive" means a tube or other apparatus in  
25 which bees may nest, and which is installed to attract native bees  
26 other than honeybees.

27 "Native bee" means a bee of a species that is native to the State  
28 and does not produce honey, but provides for the pollination of  
29 crops or plants, or other agricultural, environmental, or horticultural  
30 benefits.

31  
32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

33

34

35

36

37 Establishes penalty for destruction of man-made native bee hive.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1296

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER**

**District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Assemblyman PARKER SPACE**

**District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)**

**Assemblywoman MARLENE CARIDE**

**District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman McHose, Assemblymen Andrzejczak and Eustace**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes penalty for destruction of man-made native bee hive.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning man-made bee hives, and supplementing Title 4  
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35 STATEMENT

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37 This bill establishes a civil penalty of up to \$500 for each offense  
38 when a person intentionally destroys a man-made native bee hive.  
39 Under the bill, a man-made native bee hive is defined as a tube or  
40 other apparatus in which native bees may nest, and which is  
41 installed to attract native bees. A native bee is defined as a species  
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**Senator JEFF VAN DREW**

**District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)**

**Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ**

**District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

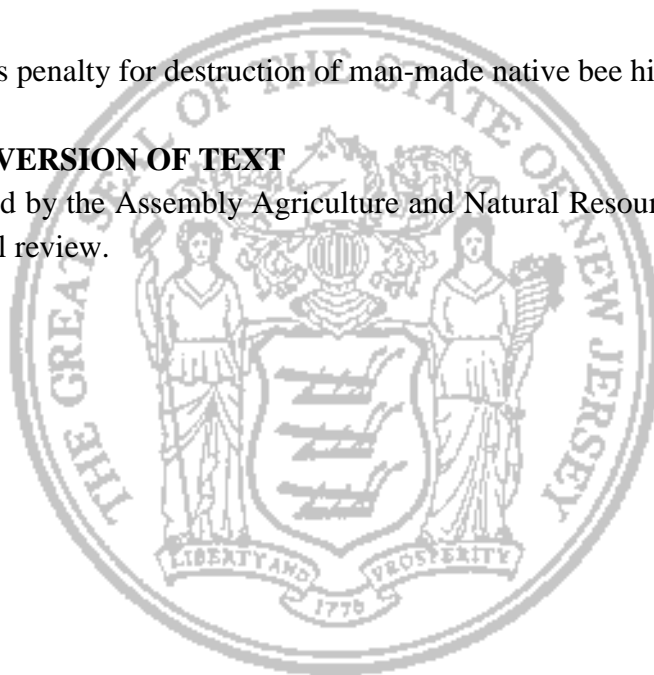
**Assemblywoman McHose, Assemblymen Andrzejczak, Eustace, Gusciora  
and Senator Beck**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes penalty for destruction of man-made native bee hive.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee  
with technical review.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2015)**

1 AN ACT concerning man-made bee hives, and supplementing Title 4  
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ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1296**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 12, 2014

The Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1296.

This bill establishes a civil penalty of up to \$500 for each offense when a person intentionally destroys a man-made native bee hive. Under the bill, a man-made native bee hive is defined as a tube or other apparatus in which native bees may nest, and which is installed to attract native bees. A native bee is defined as a species native to the State that does not produce honey, but that provides for the pollination of crops or plants, or other agricultural, environmental or horticultural benefits.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2014-2015 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.



SENATE ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1296**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 11, 2015

The Senate Economic Growth Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1296.

As reported, this bill establishes a civil penalty of up to \$500 for each offense when a person intentionally destroys a man-made native bee hive. Under the bill, a man-made native bee hive is defined as a tube or other apparatus in which native bees may nest, and which is installed to attract native bees. A native bee is defined as a species native to the State that does not produce honey, but that provides for the pollination of crops or plants, or other agricultural, environmental, or horticultural benefits.

As reported, Assembly Bill No. 1296 is identical to Senate Bill No. 2302 which was also reported by the committee on this date.

# SENATE, No. 2302

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 10, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JEFF VAN DREW**

**District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)**

**Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ**

**District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Beck**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes penalty for destruction of man-made native bee hive.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2015)**

1 AN ACT concerning man-made bee hives, and supplementing Title 4  
2 of the Revised Statutes.

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SENATE ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 2302**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 11, 2015

The Senate Economic Growth Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2302.

As reported, this bill establishes a civil penalty of up to \$500 for each offense when a person intentionally destroys a man-made native bee hive. Under the bill, a man-made native bee hive is defined as a tube or other apparatus in which native bees may nest, and which is installed to attract native bees. A native bee is defined as a species native to the State that does not produce honey, but that provides for the pollination of crops or plants, or other agricultural, environmental, or horticultural benefits.

As reported, Senate Bill No. 2302, is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1296 which was also reported by the committee on this date.

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## Acting Governor Guadagno Signs Legislation to Protect New Jersey's Bee Industry

Thursday, July 31, 2015 Tags [Bill Action](#)



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### *Three Bi-Partisan, Unanimously Passed Bills Support New Jersey's Growing Beekeeping Industry*

**Trenton, NJ** - Acting Governor Kim Guadagno today signed three bi-partisan, unanimously passed bills supporting beekeepers in New Jersey. Among others, the Acting Governor was joined by New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher, Senator Steven V. Oroho (R-Morris, Sussex, Warren), and representatives of the New Jersey Farm Bureau and the New Jersey Beekeepers Association (NJBA).

"Bees are central to New Jersey's rich agricultural history, and, more important, to New Jersey's agricultural future," said Acting Governor Guadagno. "These bills collectively provide appropriate protection to New Jersey's growing beekeeping industry, support the Garden State's commercial and recreational bee industry, and heighten public awareness of the importance of bees to our food chain."

As New Jersey's official insect, honey bees are among the most well-known, popular, and economically beneficial insects. In addition to honey bees, New Jersey's more than 3,000 registered beekeepers also tend other bee species that are critical to crop pollination, like mason and bumble bees.

"These bills are important to the health and vitality of the beekeeping industry in New Jersey," said Secretary Fisher. "Bees are some of the most interesting creatures in nature and are essential to the pollination of our crops."

Honey bees are social insects that live in large colonies of up to 80,000 bees. According to the Department of Agriculture, more than 80 percent of U.S. food crops are pollinated by honey bees. In New Jersey, pollination is crucial for the state's blueberry, cranberry, pumpkin, squash, strawberry, peach, and apple crops as well as a wide variety of annual and perennial flowers and tree species.

"These bills will aid commercial beekeepers in continuing to provide vital pollination services and give clear, enforceable guidance to municipalities," said Janet A. Katz, NJBA President. "We are confident that these bills will free our organization and the Department of Agriculture to focus on educating the public on the vital role our state insect plays in New Jersey agriculture and in providing our membership and all New Jersey beekeepers with the tools and guidance to be good beekeepers and neighbors."

The Acting Governor signed the following bills today:

**A-1294** (Dancer, Space, Andrezejczak, Carde/Van Drew, Oroho) - Extends Right to Farm Act protections to commercial beekeepers, with some restrictions.

**A-1295** (Dancer, Space, Andrezejczak, Carde/Van Drew, Oroho) - Establishes exclusive State regulatory authority over apiary activities and allows for delegation of monitoring and enforcement authority to municipalities.

→ **A-1296** (Dancer, Space, Carde/Van Drew, Cruz-Perez) - Establishes penalty for destruction of man-made native bee hive.

More information on beekeeping in New Jersey is available [HERE](#).

<http://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/552015/approved/20150731a.html>