

4:10-79

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2003 **CHAPTER:** 176
NJSA: 4:10-79 (Establishes organic certification program)
BILL NO: S2379 (Substituted for A3358)
SPONSOR(S): Gill and others

DATE INTRODUCED: March 10, 2003

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** ----
SENATE: Economic Growth

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** June 23, 2003
SENATE: June 16, 2003

DATE OF APPROVAL: September 10, 2003

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

[FINAL TEXT OF BILL](#) (1st reprint enacted)
(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

S2379

[SPONSORS STATEMENT:](#) (Begins on page 2 of original bill) [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

[SENATE:](#) [Yes](#)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A3358

[SPONSORS STATEMENT:](#) (Begins on page 2 of original bill) [Yes](#)

Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to S2379

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** [Yes](#)

Identical to Senate Statement to S2379

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 633-2111 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>.

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

P.L. 2003, CHAPTER 176, *approved September 10, 2003*
Senate, No. 2379

1 AN ACT concerning organic farming and supplementing Title 4 of the
2 Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. a. The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish an organic
8 certification program. In establishing the program, the secretary shall
9 consider any national standards that may be adopted by the United
10 States Department of Agriculture for agricultural products.

11 b. In establishing an organic certification program, the secretary
12 may:

13 (1) designate one or more organizations to certify organic farming
14 and handling practices, and provide that a designated certifying
15 organization may charge fees to cover reasonable costs associated with
16 the certification process;

17 (2) establish certification procedures for "certified organic" and
18 "transitional sustainable";

19 (3) design a label to be affixed to agricultural products that receive
20 certification as "certified organic" or "transitional sustainable," as
21 appropriate; and

22 (4) charge fees to cover reasonable additional costs associated with
23 the organic certification program and the federal program
24 requirements.

25 c. The secretary shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative
26 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), any rules and
27 regulations necessary to implement an organic certification program,
28 which rules and regulations may include, but need not be limited to, a
29 list of approved, regulated and prohibited production practices and
30 substances.

31

32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

36

37 This bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an organic
38 farming certification program. In establishing the program, the
39 secretary is to consider any national standards that may be adopted by
40 the United States Department of Agriculture for organic food. Under

1 the bill, the secretary may designate one or more organizations to
2 certify organic farming and handling practices, authorize those
3 organizations to charge fees to cover reasonable costs associated with
4 the certification process, establish two separate certification
5 procedures for "certified organic" and "transitional sustainable," design
6 a label to be affixed to agricultural products that receive certification
7 as "certified organic" or "transitional sustainable," and charge fees to
8 cover reasonable additional costs associated with the organic
9 certification program and the federal program requirements. The bill
10 also requires the secretary to adopt any rules and regulations necessary
11 to implement the organic farming certification program established
12 pursuant to the bill.

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16

17 Establishes organic certification program in Department of
18 Agriculture.

SENATE, No. 2379

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 10, 2003

Sponsored by:

Senator NIA H. GILL

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Assemblyman ROBERT J. SMITH

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman DOUGLAS H. FISHER

District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

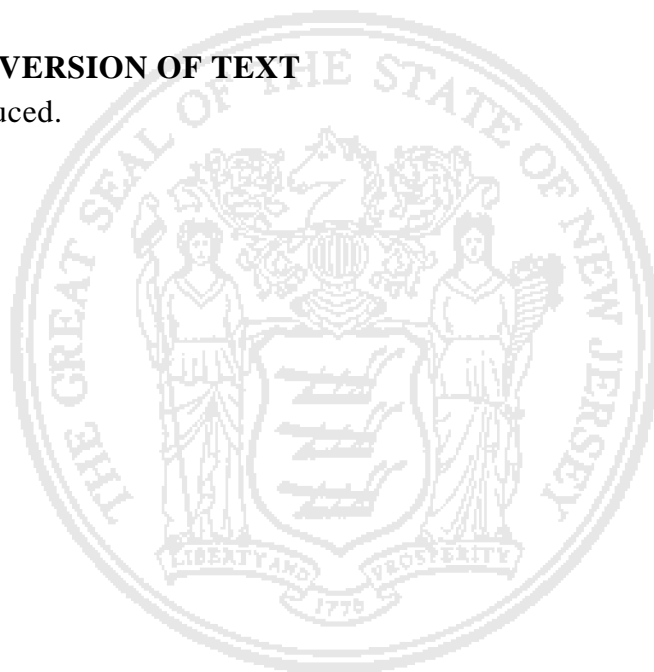
Senators James and Adler

SYNOPSIS

Establishes organic certification program in Department of Agriculture.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/24/2003)

S2379 GILL

2

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43 organizations to charge fees to cover reasonable costs associated with
44 the certification process, establish two separate certification
45 procedures for "certified organic" and "transitional sustainable," design
46 a label to be affixed to agricultural products that receive certification

S2379 GILL

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2 cover reasonable additional costs associated with the organic
3 certification program and the federal program requirements. The bill
4 also requires the secretary to adopt any rules and regulations necessary
5 to implement the organic farming certification program established
6 pursuant to the bill.

SENATE ECONOMIC GROWTH, AGRICULTURE AND
TOURISM COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2379

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 15, 2003

The Senate Economic Growth, Agriculture and Tourism Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2379.

This bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an organic farming certification program. In establishing the program, the secretary is to consider any national standards that may be adopted by the United States Department of Agriculture for organic food. Under the bill, the secretary may designate one or more organizations to certify organic farming and handling practices, authorize those organizations to charge fees to cover reasonable costs associated with the certification process, establish two separate certification procedures for "certified organic" and "transitional sustainable," design a label to be affixed to agricultural products that receive certification as "certified organic" or "transitional sustainable," and charge fees to cover reasonable additional costs associated with the organic certification program and the federal program requirements. The bill also requires the secretary to adopt any rules and regulations necessary to implement the organic farming certification program established pursuant to the bill.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3358

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 3, 2003

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ROBERT J. SMITH

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman DOUGLAS H. FISHER

District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes organic certification program in Department of Agriculture.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning organic farming and supplementing Title 4 of the
2 Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
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A3358 R. SMITH, FISHER

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2 cover reasonable additional costs associated with the organic
3 certification program and the federal program requirements. The bill
4 also requires the secretary to adopt any rules and regulations necessary
5 to implement the organic farming certification program established
6 pursuant to the bill.

ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3358

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 6, 2003

The Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3358.

This bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an organic farming certification program. In establishing the program, the secretary is to consider any national standards that may be adopted by the United States Department of Agriculture for organic food. Under the bill, the secretary may designate one or more organizations to certify organic farming and handling practices, authorize those organizations to charge fees to cover reasonable costs associated with the certification process, establish two separate certification procedures for "certified organic" and "transitional sustainable," design a label to be affixed to agricultural products that receive certification as "certified organic" or "transitional sustainable," and charge fees to cover reasonable additional costs associated with the organic certification program and the federal program requirements. The bill also requires the secretary to adopt any rules and regulations necessary to implement the organic farming certification program established pursuant to the bill.