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I N S E N A T E

May 12, 2016

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law and the economic development law, in relation to annual awards recognizing certain New York farms, businesses and institutions

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Section 309 of the agriculture and markets law is amended
2 by adding a new subdivision 9 to read as follows:

3 9. A. THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGRICULTURE SHALL ADVISE THE COMMISSION-
4 ER IN ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR MAKING ANNUAL AWARDS RECOGNIZING NEW
5 YORK FARMS, AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD BUSINESSES, AND INSTITUTIONS THAT ARE
6 SUCCESSFUL IN PRODUCING, PROCESSING, MARKETING, AND/OR PROMOTING NEW
7 YORK FARM AND FOOD PRODUCTS. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE
8 COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO DETERMINE WHICH DEPARTMENT SHALL
9 MAKE AWARDS IN CATEGORIES THAT MAY BE SIMILAR TO THOSE LISTED IN SUBDI-
10 VISION EIGHTEEN-C OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
11 LAW. THESE AWARDS SHALL BE GIVEN IN RECOGNITION OF EXCEPTIONAL PERFORM-
12 ANCE AND SUPPORT FOR NEW YORK AGRICULTURE BY PERSONS, FIRMS AND ORGAN-
13 IZATIONS THAT ARE PRINCIPALLY LOCATED WITHIN THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND
14 ENGAGED IN THE OPERATION OF NEW YORK STATE FARMS, BUSINESSES AND INSTI-
15 TUTIONS.

16 B. THE COUNCIL MAY ANNUALLY NOMINATE AND FORWARD SUCH NOMINATIONS FOR
17 AWARDS TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR HIS OR HER CONSIDERATION IN THE FOLLOWING
18 CATEGORIES:

19 (I) INNOVATIVE AND UNIQUE FARM PRODUCTS DEVELOPED FOR FOOD, BEVERAGES,
20 OR HORTICULTURE;

21 (II) AGRI-TOURISM;

22 (III) FOODS OR BEVERAGES PROCESSED OR MANUFACTURED FROM NEW YORK FARM
23 PRODUCTS;

24 (IV) RETAIL FOOD STORES;

25 (V) RESTAURANTS AND OTHER FOOD SERVICE BUSINESSES; AND

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (VI) EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE AND RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING,
2 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, FOOD SERVICE IN SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, HOSPITALS, NURS-
3 ING HOMES, DAY CARE AND SENIOR CENTERS.

4 C. THE COUNCIL MAY ALSO RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSIONER NOMINATIONS FOR
5 AWARDS GIVEN PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION EIGHTEEN-C OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED
6 OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LAW.

7 D. THE COMMISSIONER MAY DESIGNATE AWARD WINNERS FROM THESE NOMINEES AT
8 HIS OR HER DISCRETION. CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD AND THEIR
9 BUSINESSES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE AS NOMINEES.

10 S 2. Subdivision 18-c of section 100 of the economic development law,
11 as added by chapter 212 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as
12 follows:

13 18-c. to establish, in cooperation with the commissioner of agricul-
14 ture and markets, procedures for proposing nominations, INCLUDING PROCE-
15 DURES TO COORDINATE WITH SUCH COMMISSIONER TO DETERMINE WHICH DEPARTMENT
16 SHALL MAKE NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS IN CATEGORIES THAT MAY BE SIMILAR TO
17 THOSE LISTED IN SUBDIVISION NINE OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED NINE OF THE
18 AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW to the governor for three annual, non-mone-
19 tary awards to be known as: (a) New York State Direct Farm Marketing
20 Award; (b) New York State Agri-Tourism Award; and (c) New York State
21 Specialty Food Product Award. These awards shall be given in recognition
22 of unusual efforts by farmers, food processors and food retailers for
23 the marketing of New York state grown agricultural commodities or foods
24 processed from or primarily containing New York state agricultural
25 commodities and for promoting New York state farms that are also tourist
26 destinations.

27 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.