

STATE OF NEW YORK

4630

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 3, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. MAGEE, THIELE, GUNTHER, SKARTADOS, FITZPATRICK, DiPIETRO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ABBATE, CROUCH, LIFTON, LOPEZ, PALMESANO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to retail farm operations

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 11 of section 301 of the agriculture and
2 markets law, as amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2016, is amended
3 and a new subdivision 19 is added to read as follows:

4 11. "Farm operation" means the land and on-farm buildings, equipment,
5 manure processing and handling facilities, and practices which contrib-
6 ute to the production, preparation and marketing of crops, livestock and
7 livestock products as a commercial enterprise, including a "commercial
8 horse boarding operation" as defined in subdivision thirteen of this
9 section, a "timber operation" as defined in subdivision fourteen of this
10 section, "compost, mulch or other biomass crops" as defined in subdivi-
11 sion seventeen of this section ~~and~~, "commercial equine operation" as
12 defined in subdivision eighteen of this section and a "retail farm oper-
13 ation" as defined in subdivision nineteen of this section. Such farm
14 operation may consist of one or more parcels of owned or rented land,
15 which parcels may be contiguous or noncontiguous to each other.

16 19. "Retail farm operation" means a seasonal or annual enterprise with
17 either permanent or nonpermanent structures that are operated for the
18 purposes of selling predominantly farm and food products in conjunction
19 with or in support of land used in agricultural production as defined in
20 subdivision four of this section. Such portion of the farm and food
21 products shall exceed fifty percent of the gross annual income of such
22 retail farm operation. For purposes of this subdivision, farm and food
23 products shall mean any agricultural, horticultural, forest or other

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

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1 product of the soil or water, including but not limited to fresh or
2 processed fruits, vegetables, eggs, dairy products, meat and meat
3 products, poultry and poultry products, fish and fish products, apple
4 cider, fruit juice, wine, ornamental plants, nursery products, flowers
5 and Christmas trees.

6 § 2. Paragraph b of subdivision 1 of section 308 of the agriculture
7 and markets law, as amended by chapter 497 of the laws of 2011, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 b. Sound agricultural practices refer to those practices necessary for
10 the on-farm production, preparation and marketing of agricultural
11 commodities. Examples of activities which entail practices the commis-
12 sioner may consider include, but are not limited to, operation of farm
13 equipment; proper use of agricultural chemicals and other crop
14 protection methods; [~~direct sale to consumers of agricultural commod-~~
15 ~~ities or foods containing agricultural commodities produced on farm]~~
16 operation and maintenance of a "retail farm operation", as defined in
17 subdivision nineteen of section three hundred one of this article; agri-
18 cultural tourism; "timber operation," as defined in subdivision fourteen
19 of section three hundred one of this article and construction and use of
20 farm structures. The commissioner shall consult appropriate state agen-
21 cies and any guidelines recommended by the advisory council on agricul-
22 ture. The commissioner may consult as appropriate, the New York state
23 college of agriculture and life sciences and the U.S.D.A. natural
24 resources conservation service, and provide such information, after the
25 issuance of a formal opinion, to the municipality in which the agricul-
26 tural practice being evaluated is located. The commissioner shall also
27 consider whether the agricultural practices are conducted by a farm
28 owner or operator as part of his or her participation in the AEM program
29 as set forth in article eleven-A of this chapter. Such practices shall
30 be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

31 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.