STATE OF NEW YORK

6339--A

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 11, 2017

Introduced by Sens. RITCHIE, ALCANTARA, AVELLA, BAILEY, BROOKS, FUNKE, HOYLMAN, KAMINSKY, MARCELLINO, VALESKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture -- recommitted to the Committee on Agriculture in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to guidelines for pollinator protection

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

Section 1. Section 16 of the agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new subdivision 49 to read as follows:

49. Develop, in consultation with the department of environmental conservation and institutions of higher education with expertise in pollinator protection, minimum guidelines for vegetation management plans used by any person, corporation, partnership, association or other organized group of persons who make public claims that their property or commercial enterprise on a property, including, but not limited to solar electric generating systems, is pollinator friendly or provides benefits and protection to pollinators. Such guidelines shall provide guidance for short-term and long-term property management practices that provide and maintain native perennial vegetation to protect the health and well-being of pollinators including, but not limited to the percentage of the property that may be covered with native perennial vegetation; the type, amount, and diversity of native perennial vegetation that may be maintained on the property; the number of seasons and the minimum number of species of native perennial vegetation that may be in bloom; maintenance practices to be used; the use of pesticides; the width and composition of buffers adjacent to the property; and any other guidelines established by the department. Nothing in this subdivision shall be deemed to restrict any farming practices by any person, corporation, partnership,

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

LBD11674-10-8

association or other organized group of persons not making such public claims.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.