

STATE OF NEW YORK

2044

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 18, 2019

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

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to the department of agriculture and markets making available information concerning minimum guidelines for vegetation management plans in a manner that is pollinator friendly

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

Section 1. Subdivision 49 of section 16 of the agriculture and markets law, as added by chapter 399 of the laws of 2018, is amended to read as follows:

49. ~~[Develop]~~ Make available, in consultation with the department of environmental conservation and institutions of higher education with expertise in pollinator protection, information concerning 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,]~~ who intends to develop their property or commercial enterprise, such as solar electric generating systems, in a manner that is pollinator friendly or provides benefits and protection to pollinators. Such information may include 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 estab-

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

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1 lished by the department. [~~Nothing in this subdivision shall be deemed~~
2 ~~to restrict any farming practices by any person, corporation, partner~~
3 ~~ship, association or other organized group of persons not making such~~
4 ~~public claims.~~]

5 § 2. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same
6 manner as section 1 of chapter 399 of the laws of 2018, takes effect.