

RESOLUTION –

SUPPORTING CONTINUATION of CORPORATE BUSINESS TAX (CBT) AT 2023 RATE
TO FUND CRITICAL OPEN SPACE, FARMLAND, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND
HAZARDOUS SITE CLEANUP FUNDING

Model Resolution provided by: ANJEC as a member of NJ KEEP IT GREEN

Whereas, in 2014 sixty-five percent (65%) of New Jersey voters approved amending the New Jersey Constitution to provide long term sustainable funding for open space (Green and Blue Acres), farmland and historic preservation by dedicating a portion of the Corporate Business Tax (CBT) to those programs;

Whereas, New Jersey voters' high approval on every NJ open space ballot question since 1961 reflects their dedicated support for farmland, open space and historic preservation;

Whereas, agriculture plays an integral role in the prosperity, agri-businesses and well-being of "The Garden State" along with providing a fresh and abundant supply of food for its residents;

Whereas, in the most densely populated state in the nation, the Covid-19 pandemic proved the high value of New Jersey's open space and recreational areas to the health and well-being of residents throughout New Jersey, especially those in urban towns and minority communities;

Whereas; Governor Murphy stated on Earth Day 2023 during final adoption of New Jersey's Environmental Justice Rules, "we have worked incredibly hard to ensure that all people – regardless of income, race, ethnicity, or national origin – can enjoy their right to live, work, learn and recreate in a clean and healthy environment";

Whereas, New Jersey is one of the original thirteen colonies, its historic preservation is significant to our nation's history;

Whereas, open space is essential to protecting New Jersey residents and businesses from storm related flooding that results in loss of life and property and is increasing at an alarming rate due to climate change;

Whereas, continuation of New Jersey's CBT provides important and necessary funding for the acquisition, preservation and stewardship of open space, farmland and historic sites in New Jersey that protects and enhances the character and beauty of "The Garden State" while providing its citizens with opportunities for recreation, relaxation and education;

Whereas CBT funding provides long-term, sustainable funding to support communities with the remediation of hazardous sites known as brownfields, the cleanup of leaking underground storage tanks, and funds cleanups of hazardous spills;

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A copy of this model resolution can be found at <https://anjec.org/action-alerts/>

Whereas the proposed reduction in the CBT included in the 2024 NJ State budget would slash approximately \$60 million annually from vital open space, farmland, historic preservation and remediation of hazardous sites known as brownfield, the cleanup of leaking underground storage tanks, and funds cleanups of hazardous spills;

Therefore, be it resolved that the undersigned ask Governor Murphy and the New Jersey Legislature to maintain the current 2023 level of Corporate Business Tax funding without reduction to provide continuous level funding for critical environmental and public health programs.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Municipality