

## RESOLUTION # 39

### PINELANDS

1           **WHEREAS**, as of December 1, 2015, there have been 2,374 farms covering  
2           218,671 acres permanently preserved through the Farmland Preservation Program,  
3           including 109 farms covering 14,793 acres in the Pinelands; and

4           **WHEREAS**, the permanent preservation of farmland within the Pinelands Area is  
5           consistent with the goals and objectives of the Pinelands Protection Act, the Pinelands  
6           Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP), the Agriculture Retention and Development  
7           Act (ARDA), and the Garden State Preservation Trust Act (GSPT Act).

8           **WHEREAS**, the Pinelands Commission established a formal agriculture  
9           committee in 2015 comprised entirely of commission members to review and make  
10          recommendations to the full Commission about agriculture-related matters, including  
11          proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Management Plan, permitting  
12          requirements, proposed legislation and rulemaking by other agencies.

13          **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the delegates to the 101<sup>st</sup> State  
14          Agricultural Convention, assembled in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on February 10-11,  
15          2016, support the State Agriculture Development Committee's (SADC) ongoing efforts to  
16          promote the enrollment of Pinelands farms into the State Farmland Preservation  
17          Program through all of the SADC's programs.

18          **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we urge the SADC to continue allowing both  
19          appraisal valuations and formula valuations for each application submitted in order to  
20          make an offer to the landowner based on the higher of the two values.

21          **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we urge the Legislature to pass and the  
22          Governor to sign legislation that would allow all Pinelands Commission members to fully  
23          participate in deliberations and voting on any amendments to the CMP, while respecting

24 conflict of interest concerns related to specific issues that would impact individual  
25 landowners.

26 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we encourage the Pinelands Commission to  
27 explore adding non-voting farmer members to its new Agriculture Committee and seek  
28 the active participation of the agricultural community by reactivating the Pinelands  
29 Agriculture Advisory Committee and utilizing it as a resource in deliberations about  
30 agriculture-related matters that come before this new Committee.

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we encourage that any amendments to the  
32 Pinelands CMP or PDC program that have an effect on agricultural interests, such as  
33 those being proposed regarding housing density in towns and regional growth areas and  
34 new mandatory PDC allocations for residential development, be done only in a manner  
35 that does not diminish or dilute the demand for, or market value of, PDCs.

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we encourage the active participation of the  
37 agricultural community in the development of any amendments to the Pinelands CMP or  
38 PDC program that have an effect on agricultural interests, through consultation with the  
39 Pinelands Agricultural Advisory Committee or other such body representing the  
40 landowners of the Pinelands Area.

41 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we urge the Governor to immediately  
42 nominate a member to the Pinelands Commission to represent economic activities, such  
43 as agriculture, consistent with Article 5.b of the Pinelands Protection Act.