

RESOLUTION # 11

IN APPRECIATION OF ASSEMBLYMAN ERIC HOUGHTALING

1 **WHEREAS**, Eric Houghtaling has served in the New Jersey General Assembly since
2 2016, and has served as Chairman of the Assembly Agriculture Committee since January
3 2019, after having been its Vice Chairman, and also has served as Chairman of the Tourism,
4 Gaming and the Arts Committee and Deputy Majority Leader; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Assemblyman Houghtaling, from Neptune Township, has served his
6 entire Legislative career representing the 11th District, which covers a diverse array of 18
7 municipalities in Monmouth County, some with ties to tourism and the ocean-related
8 economy and some with significant agricultural businesses; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Assemblyman Houghtaling has reflected the diverse needs and
10 interests of the municipalities that make up the district, including being an effective advocate
11 for the farmers and agricultural businesses both in his district and throughout New Jersey;
12 and

13 **WHEREAS**, the agriculture-related initiatives Assemblyman Houghtaling has
14 championed during his time in the Legislature include, but are not limited to measures aimed
15 at addressing the state's white-tail deer overpopulation and its impact on crop-loss to
16 farmers, including spearheading legislation to provide more state support for deer fencing on
17 farms; helping those in the business of housing horses in stalls by removing the state sales
18 tax requirement on their services; establishing a program for loan redemption for teachers of
19 agriculture who stay to teach in New Jersey; establishing a "Jersey Native Plants" program to
20 promote horticultural products native to, and raised in, New Jersey; authorizing the award of
21 reasonable costs and attorney fees to farmers prevailing in certain farm management
22 disputes; and many others; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Assemblyman Houghtaling, an electrician by trade, has earned a
24 reputation for being a frequent visitor to farms, both in his district and throughout the state,

25 either on his own or as part of legislative farm tours, to learn first-hand all he can about the
26 operations on the farms related to his Chairmanship of the Agriculture Committee; and

27 **WHEREAS**, Assemblyman Houghtaling has frequently taken time to address the
28 annual State Agricultural Convention, as well as meetings of other agricultural agencies and
29 groups throughout the state.

30 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the delegates to the 107th State
31 Agricultural Convention, assembled in Atlantic City, N.J., on February 9-10, 2022, do hereby
32 acknowledge the many accomplishments of Assemblyman Houghtaling in his advocacy for
33 New Jersey agriculture during his tenure in the General Assembly and wish him all success
34 in his future endeavors.