TRENTON UPDATE:

AND I THOUGHTA FRIENDLIER ADMINISTRATION WAS GOING TO MAKE MY JOB EASIER!

Elliott Ruga, Policy & Communications Director New Jersey Highlands Coalition

> ANJEC Congress October 4, 2019





YIKES, AN OPEN SPACE VICTORY!



June 26, Governor Murphy signs S2920 into law, which was passed unanimously by the Legislature on June 20, permanently establishing the allocation of constitutionally dedicated open space, farmland, historic preservation and stewardship funding, which implements the 2014 ballot measure that passed with a 65% majority.



NJ GREEN AMENDMENT update

Lead organizations:



More organizations needed to make the initiative a priority!









75 organizations support passage of a New Jersey Green Amendment including:

ANJEC

Raritan Headwaters Association

Raritan Riverkeeper

New Jersey Conservation Foundation

Pinelands Preservation Alliance

GreenFaith

The Sourlands Conservancy

Musconetcong Watershed Association

Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance

Food & Water Watch

New Jersey League of Conservation Voters

New Jersey Environmental Lobby

The Watershed Institute

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey

Passaic River Coalition

New York/New Jersey Baykeeper

Hackensack Riverkeeper

Raritan Valley Community College

Promote among your members. Join us for monthly pubic webinar.



NEW JERSEY'S GREEN AMENDMENT

In the Bill of Rights, Article I of the NJ Constitution

Recognizes as inalienable, The right to:

- Clean water
- Clean air
- Stable climate
- **Healthy environment**

Self executing

Entitled to same constitutional recognition and protection as life, liberty, property, free assembly, religion, etc.

NEW JERSEY STATE CONSTITUTION 1947 (UPDATED THROUGH AMENDMENTS ADOPTED IN NOVEMBER, 2017)

A Constitution agreed upon by the delegates of the people of New Jersey, in Convention, begun A Consultation agreed upon by the delegates of the people of New Jersey, in Convention, begun at Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey, in New Brunswick, on the twelfth day of the tenth day of Contember 1947. or rangers university, the state university or new sersety, June, and continued to the tenth day of September, 1947.

We, the people of the State of New Jersey, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious We, the people of the State of New Jersey, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

- 1. All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unallenable 1. All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unanenable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and the second and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.
- 2. a. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection, a. All political power is innerent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people, and they have the right at all times to alter or reform the same,
- b. The people reserve unto themselves the power to recall, after at least one year of service, p. The people reserve unto themselves the power to recall, after at least one year of service, and elected official in this State or representing this State in the United States Congress. The angular feet of the United States Congress. any elected official in this state of representing this state in the united states Congress. The legislature shall enact laws to provide for such recall elections. Any such laws shall include a legislature shall enact laws to provide for such recall elections. whenever Legislature shall enact laws to provide for such recall elections. Any such laws shall include a provision that a recall election shall be held upon petition of at least 25% of the registered voters. provision that a recall election shall be nell upon petition of at least 2370 of the registered voters in the electoral district of the official sought to be recalled. If legislation to implement this contribution are advantaged within any upon of the advantage of the appendix the contribution of the advantage of the appendix that in the electrial district of the official sought to be recalled. If registation to implement, this constitutional amendment is not enacted within one year of the adoption of the amendment, the constitutional district the constitutional amendment that the constitution is the constitution of the constitution of the constitution and the constitution are the constitution are the constitution and the constitution are the constitution and the constitution are the constitution are the constitution and the constitution are the constitutional amendment is not enacted within one year of the adoption of the amendment, the secretary of State shall, by regulation, implement the constitutional amendment, except that Secretary of State shall, by regulation, implement the constitutional amenument, except that regulations adopted by the Secretary of State shall be superseded by any subsequent legislation regulations adopted by the Secretary of State shall be superseded by any subsequent legislation. regulations adopted by the Secretary of State Shall be superseded by any subsequent regulations of some statement of reasons or grounds procedurally required shall be a political rather than a statement of reasons or grounds procedurally required shall be a political rather than a solitical ra consistent with this constitutional amenument governing recall elections. The sufficiency of any statement of reasons or grounds procedurally required shall be a political rather than a judicial statement.
 - 3. No person shall be deprived of the inestimable privilege of worshipping Almighty God in a No person snall be deprived of the mesumable privilege of worshipping Annighty Sod in a
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 - 4. There shall be no establishment of one religious sect in preference to another; no religious or Inere shall be no establishment of one religious sect in preference to another; no rengious of racial test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust.
 - 5. No person shall be denied the enjoyment of any civil or military right, nor be discriminated 2. No person shall be defined the enjoyment of any civil or military right, nor be segregated in the militar or in the public or any civil or military right, nor be segregated in the militar or in the public definition of the public of the against in the exercise or any civil or military right, not be segregated in the military in the public schools, because of religious principles, race, color, ancestry or national origin.
 - 6. Every person may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being appropriate for the abuse of that picht. No law shall be passed to contain as abusine the liberty of o. Every person may meety speak, write and publish his sentiments on an subjects, using responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of the country present or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in speech or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in speech to the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver and if it shall appear to the liver that the liver appear to the liver that the matter depends on the liver that the matter depends on the liver that t speech or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury; and if it shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as libelous is true, and the statistical product of the product of th evidence to the jury; and it is shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as injectors is true, and was published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted; and the



NEW JERSEY'S GREEN AMENDMENT

SCR185

Greenstein, Linda R. as Primary Sponsor Bateman, Christopher as Primary Sponsor Codey, Richard J. as Co-Sponsor Vitale, Joseph F. as Co-Sponsor Cruz-Perez, Nilsa as Co-Sponsor Diegnan, Patrick J., Jr. as Co-Sponsor Turner, Shirley K. as Co-Sponsor Weinberg, Loretta as Co-Sponsor Gopal, Vin as Co-Sponsor Gill, Nia H., Esq. as Co-Sponsor

10/15/18 passed out of Senate Env (4y; 1abs) Referrred to Sen Budget & Appropriations

ACR85

Pinkin, Nancy J. as Primary Sponsor McKeon, John F. as Primary Sponsor Benson, Daniel R. as Primary Sponsor Jasey, Mila M. as Co-Sponsor **Zwicker, Andrew** as Co-Sponsor Reynolds-Jackson, AS Co-snsor Mukherji, Raj as Co-Sponsor Vainieri Huttle, Valerie as Co-Sponsor Carter, Linda S. as Co-Sponsor Giblin, Thomas P. as Co-Sponsor Holley, Jamel C. as Co-Sponsor Caputo, Ralph R. as Co-Sponsor Murphy, Carol A. as Co-Sponsor Downey, Joann as Co-Sponsor Houghtaling, Eric as Co-Sponsor **Karabinchak, Robert J.** as Co-Sponsor **Sumter, Shavonda E.** as Co-Sponsor **Speight, Shanique** as Co-Sponsor Lopez, Yvonne as Co-Sponsor **Chaparro, Annette** as Co-Sponsor Tucker, Cleopatra G. as Co-Sponsor Wimberly, Benjie E. as Co-Sponsor McKnight, Angela V. as Co-Sponsor Danielsen, Joe as Co-Sponsor

Referred to Assembly Ag & Nat Resources



HIGHLANDS/PINELANDS APPOINTMENTS

The 3-D chess challenge of Highlands appointments:

Thirteen members appointed by the Governor;

Eight members, at least one from each of the seven Highlands counties; of those, no more than four of the same political party; at least three shall be county officials holding elective office when appointed; the remaining are municipal elected officials; of those, two residents from the county that has the largest population (Morris), of whom no more than one shall be of the same political party;

Plus seven residents of the State with expertise, knowledge, or experience in water quality protection, natural resources protection, environmental protection, agriculture, forestry, land use, or economic development, and at least four of them shall be property owners, business owners, or farmers in the Highlands Region or residents or nonresidents of the Highlands Region who benefit from or consume water from the Highlands Region.

In addition to the thirteen, and with the qualifications above, one shall be appointed by the President of the Senate, and one shall be appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly.

(Problem: Of the seven "public members", there is no prohibition against holding elected office!)

HIGHLANDS/PINELANDS APPOINTMENTS

Governor's response to our advocacy:

Highlands

- Designating Carl Richko Chair of Highlands Council
- Support for hiring Lisa Plevin as Executive Director
- Nomination of Bill Kibler
- Nomination of Dan Van Abs
- Nomination of Wynnie-Fred Victor Hinds
- Meeting this week with NJHC on reminder of "slate"

Pinelands

- Nomination of Kelly Mooij (voluntarily withdrawn)
- Nomination of Jennifer Coffey

Remaining steps

- New Pinelands Commission Executive Director
- Senatorial "courtesy"
- Hearing and approval by Senate Judiciary Committee
- Simple majority approval by full Senate
- Full slate of Highlands/Pinelands appointments

As clean water advocates we have accomplished so much in improving water quality in the past decades. Yet unmanaged, or poorly managed stormwater remains a persistent and significant challenge. With the recent stormwater utilities legislation, we achieved a breakthrough with a proven, equitable and effective response to this challenge.

However, the climate driven phenomenon of HABs, for which the establishment of a stormwater utility is an ideally suited response, has exposed a major faultline between clean water advocates and the far right.

HABs caused an economic crisis this summer. Until we find a path forward HABs will return as an annual scourge upon the New Jersey summer.