



DONNA A. LUPARDO
Member of Assembly
123rd District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Committee on Agriculture

COMMITTEES
Economic Development, Job Creation
Commerce and Industry
Higher Education
Rules
Transportation

December 15, 2019

Honorable Carl Heastie
Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 349
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Speaker Heastie,

As Chairperson of the Assembly Standing Committee on Agriculture, I respectfully submit to you the 2019 Annual Report. I have outlined the Committee's significant legislation, as well as the Committee's priorities for the upcoming 2020 Legislative Session.

The agricultural industry is one of the largest in New York State, as documented in a 2015 report by Farm Credit East, which estimated that the total impact on State economic output from agricultural, commercial fishing and forestry production, food processing and off-farm services was approximately \$48 billion and supported 197,745 jobs. Dairy processing alone was estimated to be valued at \$23 billion in output and supporting over 49,000 jobs. The 2017 USDA Census of Agriculture shows that over 6.9 million acres, about 20% of the state's land mass, is used by more than 33,000 farms to produce a diverse array of food products such as dairy, grains, fruits, vegetables and maple syrup. New York has the third-largest number of certified organic farms in the nation, increasing by over 60% since the last census in 2012.

New York is ranked among the top states for production of apples, milk and dairy products such as Greek yogurt, cottage cheese and sour cream, maple syrup, grapes and grape products such as wine and juice, pears, cabbage, onions, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes and many other agricultural commodities. While New York State is a national leader in production of several farm products, the typical farm is a small business, family-owned and managed. The average farm size is about 200 acres which is half the national average.

Throughout the 2019 Legislative Session, the Committee remained dedicated to promoting policies that would help New York's farms businesses, consumers and animals. The committee advanced legislation that passed both houses of the Legislature to: provide for better regulation and standards for hemp products and the hemp industry so this agricultural sector can continue to be a national leader; protect New York farmers, food businesses and consumers by creating standards for the use of the term "local" when it comes to farm products; and, provide state guidance for farmers to help them comply with environmental rules. Animal protection legislation is an important component of the Committee's work, and several significant bills that strengthen animal welfare were approved this past Session.

This year, as part of the State budget process, the Legislature restored millions of dollars in funding research and promotion programs that provide support and services directly to farmers. Funding was again provided for capital improvements at county fairs and projects at companion animal shelters.

While farming continues to face challenges, there are also many opportunities for growth, such as hemp, that the State must be ready and willing to support. One of my primary goals as Chair was to make sure the State Legislature supported our hardworking farmers who supply us with the best food and drink in the world.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the Agriculture Committee, the rest of my Assembly colleagues, and all the agriculture groups in the State for supporting me in my role as the new Chair of the Agriculture Committee, and for supporting our requests for funding in the budget and advancing legislation that is essential to the agricultural community. I also want to thank the Speaker for entrusting me with this job. On behalf of New York State Assembly's Committee on Agriculture, I thank you for your leadership and continued encouragement and support in addressing these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna A. Lupardo".

Donna A. Lupardo
Chair,
Committee on Agriculture

**2019 ANNUAL REPORT
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Members

Donna Lupardo
Chair

MAJORITY

Barbara S. Lifton
Aileen M. Gunther
Linda B. Rosenthal
José J. Rivera
Didi Barrett
Al Stirpe
Angelo Santabarbara
Carrie Woerner
Billy Jones
Harvey Epstein
Walter T. Mosley
Erik M. Dilan
Jaime R. Williams
Marianne Buttenschon

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Clifford Crouch
Gary D. Finch
Stephen Hawley
Michael J. Fitzpatrick
Brian D. Miller

STAFF

Giovanni Warren, Assistant Secretary for Program & Policy
Robert Stern, Principal Analyst
Sarah Klein, Counsel
Deijha Martin, Committee Assistant
Nicole VanAuken, Executive Secretary
Amy Abbati, Committee Clerk

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I. Committee Jurisdiction

The Assembly Standing Committee on Agriculture is responsible for legislation that relates to the Agriculture and Markets Law, oversight of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and helping to craft the Department's budget. The Committee collaborates closely with institutions of higher education and other organizations to foster agriculture research and development through programs such as the New York State Veterinary Diagnostic Center at Cornell and the New York Farm Viability Institute. The Committee also works with farmers and their representatives to develop policies and programs to promote the State's agricultural products, support the growth of agricultural, food and beverage businesses, ensure a safe food supply including healthy livestock, preserve our State's farmland resources and protect welfare of our companion animals.

As part of its legislative and oversight functions, the Committee on Agriculture investigates issues related to Agricultural District enhancements, food inspections and safety, farmland protection, farm product sales and marketing, agribusiness licensing and regulation, the humane treatment of companion animals, kosher laws, consumer protection and animal diseases.

Agricultural-related legislation is often considered by other Assembly Committees, such as the Committees on Ways and Means, Codes, Economic Development, Environmental Conservation, Labor, Consumer Affairs, and Energy, and the Committee provides input and counsel to those committees to make sure that agricultural interests are taken into account.

II. 2019 Committee Accomplishments

A. Support for New York's Farms and Food Businesses

New York State offers many programs and policies that assist farmers and related food businesses, including New York Agricultural Districts, marketing programs, training and research. As the market and demand for local agricultural products increases, it is important that the State continues to provide the tools and support for our farmers to maximize their productivity. The Committee on Agriculture places great importance on assisting farmers and food producers to better participate, grow and compete in rapidly changing, competitive marketplaces.

1. Funding for Fair in Orange County (Chapter 600 of the Laws of 2019/A.2079 Gunther)

Current law prevents Cooperative Extension Youth Fairs from qualifying for state funding for "premiums" (prizes for agricultural products and animals exhibited at fairs) when there is a statutory "county fair" in the same county. Orange County has a unique situation where most of the traditional agricultural exhibits have moved from the county fair to the Cooperative Extension Youth Fair and the County government has voted for a resolution recommending that the Orange County Youth Fair be made eligible for state funding. This law would authorize the Youth Fair to be eligible if they meet all state requirements.

2. Pollinator Friendly Management Plans (Chapter 203 of the Laws of 2019/A.5312 Lupardo)

This law authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Markets, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Conservation and universities with expertise in pollinators, to make available to property owners information about guidelines for vegetation management plans to make sure land remains pollinator-friendly when the owners convert large open space to projects such as solar arrays. The reduction of pollinator-friendly habitats has contributed to the loss of pollinators, which is negatively impacting New York agriculture as well as the environment. Businesses that use vegetation plans to make their property or solar installations pollinator-friendly should be encouraged and assisted by the State with guidance about minimum pollinator protection standards.

3. Aggregating Farm Goods (Veto #180/A.6489 Gunther)

This bill would direct the Department of Agriculture and Markets to provide technical assistance to small-scale farmers and food processors to help them coordinate with each other to aggregate, process, and transport their products so they can meet the requirements of wholesalers, restaurants and institutional buyers such as schools or hospitals. The Department would work with Cornell Cooperative Extension and Empire State Development to achieve this goal and could provide the assistance as part of training programs on state procurement already established in law. It can be an administrative burden for schools to separately purchase from several smaller local farmers as part of Farm-to-School programs and this bill could help farmers meet the needs of larger school districts such as New York City.

4. Hemp Industry Development (Chapter 614 of the Laws of 2019/A.7680-A Lupardo)

This law would update the definition of Industrial Hemp to match the federal definition in the 2018 Farm Bill that more fully legalized the cultivation, processing and sale at the federal level. It would also implement new requirements for licensing, compliance and enforcement, regulations, reporting for hemp farmers and businesses.

In addition, the law defines, and creates a regulatory program for Hemp Extract, otherwise known as cannabinoids, such as CBDs (cannabidiol). There would be separate licensing for cultivating hemp for this purpose as well as extracting or manufacturing it and the Department would be authorized to issue permits for retail sale. Foods and beverages containing Hemp Extract would be regulated separately from foods with Industrial Hemp.

Currently there is little government regulation of the CBD marketplace. The goal of this legislation is to create a New York Hemp Extract industry with recognized high standards to make New York a national leader. Additional legislation to amend this law to enhance the administration of the State's Hemp program has been agreed upon by the legislature and Governor.

**5. Asian Longhorned Tick Prevention
(Chapter 674 of the Laws of 2019/A.8098 Barrett)**

The Asian Longhorned Tick, one of the newest invasive species to enter the United States, was recently found in New York this year. While no apparent illness was found in the Tick, in other parts of the world they have carried diseases fatal to both humans and farm animals. This law will have the Department of Agriculture and Markets work with the State Department of Health and Cornell University to develop best practices for preventing Asian Longhorned Tick infestations of farm animals and farm properties. The best practices would include landscaping techniques, preventing rodent infestations and the use of Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) approved pesticides when needed. The information developed would be distributed to farmers and posted on the Department's website. Additional legislation to amend this law to clarify language has been agreed upon by the legislature and Governor.

**6. Safe Re-Use of Tires
(Veto #192/A.8303 Lupardo)**

Discarded tires can often be used by farmers to hold down protective covers for large stocks of feed corn or hay stored outside. However, these tires may become breeding grounds for mosquitos, and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) put forth regulations requiring farmers to cut or drill tires to make sure they drain. Unfortunately, cutting the tires could potentially contaminate the feed and pose risks for workers. This bill would help address the new DEC regulations by authorizing the Commissioner of Agriculture to adopt rules and regulations to address the use of tires on farms in a manner that protects public health and the safety of animals and workers.

B. Animal Safety and Control

New Yorkers care deeply for the health and safety of their pets and other animals. The Committee advanced legislation to strengthen laws promoting animal welfare and assisting pet owners.

**1. Care of Animals by Pet Dealers
(Chapter 149 of the Laws of 2019/A.216-A Paulin)**

This Law will amend the pet dealer law to require increased protections for animals in the care of pet dealers. Pet dealers will be held to new standards that promote the safety, comfort, good health and overall well-being of the animals in their care, such as turning lights down at night, setting specific timetables and instructions for cleaning animal enclosures, and requiring separate space for nursing mothers to care for their litters.

**2. Declawing of Cats
(Chapter 107 of the Laws of 2019/A.1303-B Rosenthal)**

This law prohibits anyone from performing declawing procedures on cats such as the removal of bone, and the cutting of tendons, nerves and ligaments in the cat's toes, except for medically necessary therapeutic purposes. Such purposes do not include cosmetic or convenience concerns. The penalty for violating the provisions of the law is a fine up to one thousand dollars. When a cat is declawed, the animal may experience pain, and infections and many cats develop behavioral problems as well.

**3. Therapy Dogs
(Chapter 574 of the Laws of 2019/A.6601 Lupardo)**

Therapy dogs are used to visit children, seniors, college students and residents of institutions such as nursing homes or mental health facilities and provide positive emotional support and well-being. Chapter 37 of the Laws of 2018 required a working group to develop a report on issues related to these dogs, especially the need for education, training, identifying what they do, and clarifying the differences from service dogs and emotional support animals.

This law addresses one of recommendations included in the report by authorizing the Department to publish guidance on their website for therapy dog owners, and institutions they visit, and provide guidance to municipalities that offer therapy dog licenses.

**4. Confinement of Pets in Cars
(Chapter 137 the Laws of 2019/A.7053 Thiele)**

It is currently against the law to confine a companion animal in a motor vehicle in extreme heat or cold temperatures without proper ventilation or other protection for a period of time that would put the animal in imminent danger of death or serious physical injury. Police and peace officers, and humane society agents are authorized to remove animals from the vehicles when the owner cannot be located. This new law would add paid and volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel to the list of officials who could remove an animal confined in a car during extreme weather.

C. Consumer Protection and Other Legislation

**1. Propane Emergencies
(A.1434-B Santabarbara)**

Many propane customers in New York have contracts with suppliers who provide the tank for the customer and require that the customer only buy gas from the owner of the tank. These agreements can sometimes result in a situation where, during an emergency, the contracted supplier is unable to refill a customer's tank and the customer is restricted by the contract from buying from another supplier, leaving a household without gas for days.

This bill would address situations when there is a declared emergency at the federal, State or local level or extreme weather or other circumstances such as a propane supply shortage that would put someone at risk of injury or death and/or their property at risk of significant damage because their supplies may be insufficient to heat their house. It would authorize consumers to purchase propane from any supplier to fill a tank after they have contacted their contracted supplier to deliver gas and the supplier could not or would not supply gas or designate another company to supply gas in 24 hours. No additional delivery or refilling fees or penalties other than the regular fees in the contract could be imposed on a customer for purchasing from another propane company when the conditions outlined in the bill were in effect.

**2. Local Food Definition
(Veto #214/A.1460 Woerner)**

This bill would require that retail food products could only be labeled as “local,” or “locally grown” if the food product was harvested, grown, or raised in New York State or included labeling that described the state or geographic region where the food or essential components of the food product was from. Currently, there is no State definition of what food can be labelled “local” or “locally grown” in NY State.

**3. Westchester County Weights and Measures
(Chapter 350 of the Laws of 2019/A.4074-A Paulin)**

Westchester County government requested legislative authority to consolidate the positions of Director of Consumer Affairs and Director of Weights and Measures. The law currently allows cities or counties with at least one million residents to use the Director of Consumer Affairs for both and Westchester County has a population just under one million. This law authorizes Westchester to the same.

**4. Food Safety Board
(Veto #181/A.5176 Cook)**

This bill would establish a thirteen member advisory board within the Department of Agriculture and Markets that would advise the Commissioner of Agriculture on issues related to the administration and enforcement of food safety, especially the adequacy of inspection and enforcement activities. The board would review existing and proposed laws and regulations and report to the Legislature and the Commissioner on the need for changes within the food safety and inspection programs.

**5. Community Gardens
(Chapter 272 of the Laws of 2019/A. 6019-A Ortiz)**

This law directs the Department of Agriculture and Markets Office of Community Gardens to work with other State agencies including the Departments of Health and State, the Office of Children and Family Services and the Division of Housing and Community Renewal to help support community gardens. In addition, the Office's Advisory Task Force would have the goal of increasing the production of fresh produce at gardens to help improve nutrition and health in the communities served.

**6. Diesel Fuel Information
(Chapter 303 of the Laws of 2019/A.7690 Santabarbara)**

State Agriculture and Markets law regulating weights and measures requires gas stations selling diesel fuel to post the cetane rating of the fuel on the pump to let buyers know the quality they are buying similar to octane for gas. However, most diesel purchasers now look for the “grade” of diesel which is the commonly used method of selling diesel fuel to drivers. The requirement of posting cetane ratings could put gas station operators at risk for violating a law that is no longer necessary for protecting consumers since the minimum required grade of diesel is above the minimum cetane rating. This bill would eliminate the posting requirement.

D. Hearings/Roundtables

Public Hearing on Oversight of the 2019-20 State Budget: On December 19, 2019, the Committee held a budget oversight hearing on programs funded in the 2019-2020 State Budget and administered by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The goal of the hearing was to examine the overall impact and implementation of the 2018-19 budget and assess the impact and effectiveness of New York's agricultural programs including the efficacy of current state investments in agriculture and animal protection including the best approach to help farmers be more successful in a competitive national and international marketplace. Those testifying included: the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets; the State's farmworker child care organization; Cornell University including Cooperative Extension and the State Veterinary Diagnostic Lab; Farm Bureau; Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY), the New York State Farm Viability Institute; American Farmland Trust; associations representing Christmas tree and sheep growers; and the New York State Animal Protection Federation. Those participating advocated for more funding to address agricultural research needs, protection of farms and farmland, marketing of New York farm products, animal and public health protection, and creation of an animal protection unit in the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Roundtable on Farmworker Labor Protections: On May 28, the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Labor co-sponsored a roundtable discussion of pending legislation to amend the Labor Law regarding farmworkers. Farmers, Farm Bureau, labor representatives, farmworkers and agricultural academic experts participated in a discussion on the need for changes to existing law. There was discussion of the current status of farm labor laws in New York and other states and the potential impacts on farmers and farmworkers of changes to overtime and day off requirements in law, including the potential costs to farmers and benefits to workers, with a goal of finding consensus on provisions that could be included in the legislation.

E. Agriculture Budget 2019-2020

In the SFY 2019-2020 Department of Agriculture and Markets budget, the Legislature included an estimated \$53.2 million for local assistance and \$117 million for State operations. Funding for capital projects totaled \$ 19.4 million, including \$5 million for local fairs capital and \$5 million for projects at companion animal shelters.

The Legislature demonstrated its interest in promoting and protecting agriculture by adding funding for programs related to marketing, research, education and support for farmers. The final budget restored funding for programs such as Quality Milk Services, Farmworker Child Care, the Farm Viability Institute, and New York State Apple Growers Association and added some additional funds for hops research and maple industry promotion. New funding was provided for agricultural economic development projects.

Agriculture and Markets (Local Assistance)	Enacted Budget
Cornell Diagnostic Lab	
"Core" Diagnostic Lab	\$4,839,000
NYS Cattle Health Assurance Program	\$360,000
Quality Milk Production Services Program	\$1,174,000
Cornell University Johnes Disease Program	\$480,000
Cornell University Rabies Program	\$350,000
Cornell University Avian Disease Program	\$252,000
Cornell Salmonella Dublin Program (Diagnostic Lab)	\$200,000
Cornell Research and Development	
Cornell University Berry Research	\$260,000
Cornell University Honeybee Research	\$150,000
Cornell University Maple Research	\$125,000
Cornell University Onion Research	\$70,000
Cornell University Vegetable Research	\$100,000
Cornell Hard Cider Research	\$200,000
Cornell Concord Grape Research	\$250,000
Hop Evaluation and Field Testing Program	\$400,000
Cornell Education and Outreach	
Cornell University Agriculture in the Classroom	\$380,000

Cornell University Future Farmers of America	\$842,000
Association of Agricultural Educators	\$416,000
Cornell University Farm Family Assistance	\$872,000
Cornell University Golden Nematode Program	\$62,000
Cornell University Pro-Dairy Program	\$1,201,000
Cornell Veterans to Farms	\$115,000
Cornell Farm Labor Specialist	\$200,000
Farm Viability Institute	
New York Farm Viability Institute	\$1,900,000
New York State Berry Growers	\$60,000
NY Corn and Soybean Growers	\$75,000
Agriculture Development	
Taste NY	\$1,100,000
NYS Brewers Association	\$75,000
NY Cider Association	\$75,000
NYS Distillers Guild	\$75,000
New York Wine and Grape Foundation	\$1,079,000
NY Christmas Tree Farmers	\$125,000
New York State Apple Growers Association	\$750,000
Maple Producers Association	\$288,000
Apple Research and Development	\$500,000
Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship	\$150,000
Northern NY Agricultural Development	\$300,000
Dairy Profit Teams	\$370,000
Agricultural Access and Education	
Electronic Benefits Transfer	\$138,000
Farm-To-School	\$750,000
Ag Child Care (Migrant)	\$9,275,000
Local Fairs	\$500,000
Tractor Rollover Protection Program	\$250,000
Other Programs	
Farmland for a New Generation Resource Center	\$200,000
Farmland for a New Generation Regional Navigator	\$200,000
Harvest New York	\$600,000
New Programs	

Teens for Food Justice	\$20,000
Red Hook Farm Initiative	\$40,000
Met Council Kosher Food Network	\$50,000
Agriculture Economic Development (Grow NY)	\$1,000,000
Total	\$33,243,000

III. 2020 Outlook

In 2019, the Standing Committee on Agriculture continued to work to: provide state financial support and reduce administrative burdens for farmers and other businesses; foster research to help farmers boost productivity; assist food businesses; protect agricultural land; and protect pets and their owners. In the coming year, the Committee expects to continue to address issues of concern to farmers and related business owners, consumers, and animal advocates. The Committee will work to help assure that our farmers can capitalize on the burgeoning hemp industry and potential cannabis marketplace.

**APPENDIX A
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ON ALL BILLS
REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
DURING THE 2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Final Action	Assembly Bills	Senate Bills	Total Bills
<u>BILLS REPORTED FAVORABLE TO:</u>			
Codes	9	0	9
Judiciary	0	0	0
Ways & Means	4	0	4
Rules	1	0	1
Floor	4	0	4
Total	18	0	18
<u>COMMITTEE ACTION</u>			
Bills Held for Consideration	0	0	0
Bills Defeated in Committee	0	0	0
Bills Having Enacting Clauses Stricken	0	0	0
<u>BILLS HAVING COMMITTEE REFERENCE CHANGED</u>	1	0	1
<u>BILLS REMAINING IN COMMITTEE</u>	117	17	134
TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD	5		

APPENDIX B
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE CHAPTERS

Assembly Bill #	Sponsor	Description
A.216-A	Paulin	This law requires increased protections for animals in the care of pet dealers. Chapter 149 of the Laws of 2019
A.1303-B	Rosenthal	This law prohibits veterinarians from performing declawing procedures on cats. Chapter 107 of the Laws of 2019
A.2079	Gunther	This law would make the Orange County Cooperative Extension Youth Fair eligible for state funding. Chapter 600 of the Laws of 2019
A.4074-A	Paulin	This law authorizes Westchester County to consolidate its Director of Consumer Protection as the Director of Weights and Measures. Chapter 350 of the Laws of 2019
A.5312	Lupardo	This law authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Markets to make available to property owners information about guidelines for vegetation management plans to make sure land remains pollinator-friendly Chapter 203 of the Laws of 2019
A.6019-A	Ortiz	This law directs the Department of Agriculture and Markets Office of Community Gardens to work with other State agencies to help support community gardens. In addition, the Office's Advisory Task Force would have the goal of increasing the production of fresh produce at gardens to help improve nutrition and health in the communities served. Chapter 272 of the Laws of 2019
A.6601	Lupardo	This law authorizes the Department to publish guidance on their website for therapy dog owners, and institutions they visit, and provide guidance to municipalities that offer therapy dog licenses. Chapter 574 of the Laws of 2019
A. 7053	Thiele	This law adds paid and volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel to the list of officials who could remove an animal confined in a car during extreme weather. Chapter 137 of the Laws of 2019
A.7680-A	Lupardo	This law creates a regulatory and licensing program for the processing and sale of Hemp and Hemp Extracts. It includes requirements for quality and safety standards, testing and labeling. Chapter 614 of the Laws of 2019
A.7690	Santabarbara	This law eliminates the requirement that gas stations selling diesel fuel post the cetane rating of the fuel on the pump. Chapter 303 of the Laws of 2019
A.8098	Barrett	This law will have the Department of Agriculture and Markets work with the State Department of Health and Cornell University to develop best practices for preventing Asian Longhorned Tick infestations of farm animals and farm properties. Chapter 674 of the Laws of 2019

APPENDIX C
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
BILLS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY

Assembly Bill #	Sponsor	Description
A.1434-B	Santabarbara	This bill would authorize consumers, during emergency situations, to purchase propane from any supplier to fill a tank after they have contacted their contracted supplier to deliver gas and the supplier could not or would not supply gas or designate another company to supply gas in 24 hours.
A.1460	Woerner	This bill would require that retail food products could only be labeled as "local, or "locally grown" if the food product was harvested, grown, or raised in New York State or included labeling that described the state or geographic region where the food or essential components of the food product originated. Veto #214
A.5176	Cook	This bill would establish an advisory board within the Department of Agriculture and Markets that would advise the Commissioner of Agriculture on issues related to the administration and enforcement of food safety, especially the adequacy of inspection and enforcement activities. Veto #181
A.6489	Gunther	This bill would direct the Department of Agriculture and Markets to provide technical assistance to small-scale farmers and food processors to help them coordinate with each other to aggregate, process, and transport their products so they can meet the requirements of wholesalers, restaurants and institutional buyers such as schools or hospitals. Veto #180
A.8303	Lupardo	This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture to adopt rules and regulations to address the use of tires on farms in a manner that protects public health and the safety of animals and workers. Veto #192