

2017

ANNUAL REPORT



New York State Assembly

Carl E. Heastie

Speaker

Committee on
Agriculture

William Magee

Chairman



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIRMAN
Joint Legislative Commission on
Dairy Industry Development

WILLIAM MAGEE
Member of Assembly
121st Assembly District

CHAIRMAN
Committee on Agriculture

COMMITTEES
Aging
Banks
Higher Education
Local Governments

December 15, 2017

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 2017 Annual Report. I have outlined the Committee's significant legislation, as well as the Committee's priorities for the upcoming 2018 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 2012 USDA Census of Agriculture shows that nearly 23 percent of New York's land area, over 7.1 million acres, is used by more than 35,000 farms to produce a diverse array of food products such as dairy, grains, fruits, vegetables, and maple syrup. This year is the five-year recurrence of the Census and we look forward to positive indicators that farming is prospering in New York.

New York is ranked in the top five states for production of apples, grapes and juice and wine, pears, cabbage, maple syrup and milk and dairy products such as Greek yogurt, cottage cheese and sour cream. We are among the top 10 producers of onions, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes and many other agricultural commodities. While New York State ranks high in production of several farm products, the typical farm is a small business, family-owned and managed. Additionally, New York has the third-largest number of certified organic farms in the nation. These characteristics are reflected in the programs developed to assist our agricultural sector.

Throughout the 2017 Legislative Session, the Committee remained dedicated to promoting policies that would help New York's farms, advancing legislation that passed both houses of the Legislature providing support to new and beginning farmers, reducing costs for farmers and food businesses, and establishing programs providing technical assistance. Animal protection legislation is an important component of the Committee's work, and several bills that strength animal welfare were reported this past Session.

This year's State budget was very supportive of the agriculture industry. The Legislature restored over \$10 million and added over \$1 million in new funding for new and existing programs that provide assistance and services directly to

farmers. For the second year in a row, funding was provided for improvements at county fairs, and for the first time, \$5 million was appropriated for capital projects at companion animal shelters.

While farming continues to face challenges, there are also many opportunities for growth that the State must be ready and willing to support. As always, I appreciate the support of members of the Assembly in restoring funding and advancing legislation that is essential to the agricultural community. 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 black ink that reads "Bill Magee". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

William Magee
Chairperson,
Committee on Agriculture

**2017 ANNUAL REPORT
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

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Chairman

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STAFF

Giovanni Warren, Assistant Secretary for Program & Policy
Robert Stern, Principal Analyst
Kyle Wallach, Committee Assistant
Nicole VanAuken, Executive Secretary

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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 NY 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, preserve our State's farmland resources and protect the welfare of our companion animals.

As part of its legislative and oversight functions, the Committee on Agriculture investigates issues related to 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 referred to 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. 2017 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. Small Scale Food Processing License Fee Reduction (Chapter 400 of the Laws of 2017/A.823-A, Stirpe)

This law reduces the food processing license fee for small-scale processors from \$400 to \$175 per facility, a decrease of \$225. A small-scale processor is defined as a processor operating a food processing establishment that is not a chain store and employs no more than ten full time employees.

2. Wine Ice Cream Sales (Chapter 40 of the Laws of 2017/A.5964, Magee)

Wine ice cream is ice cream made with wine containing more than one half of one percent but less than five percent of alcohol by volume, originally authorized for sale in New York in 2008. This law authorizes the sale of packages smaller than one pint to accommodate demand for individual servings which were not allowed to be sold under previous law.

3. Industrial Hemp Program Improvements (Chapter 88 of the Laws of 2017/A.8509, Lupardo)

This law adds the definition of industrial hemp used in the existing hemp law to the section of law defining and regulating seeds, and to the Agricultural Districts Law under the definition of crops. This will enable hemp seed certification and ensure that hemp farming is included in the protections and benefits offered by Agricultural Districts. The law also directs the Department of Agriculture and Markets to:

- create an industrial hemp seed certification program to set standards for seeds and plants to make sure they are suited for New York conditions and that their tetrahydrocannabinol content is stable;
- collect, in cooperation with Cooperative Extension, data and research on industrial hemp production and provide best practices assistance to growers and producers of industrial hemp;
- work with the Empire State Development Corporation to identify funding and support of research on hemp and related processing and manufacturing businesses;
- setup a one-stop phone hotline and web page to provide technical assistance to growers and manufacturers regarding legal issues until hemp is no longer a controlled substance; and,
- establish an advisory group to recommend industrial hemp-related research and product development.

In addition to Chapter 88, the hemp law was also recently amended as part of the 2017-18 budget (Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2017 Part OO) to remove the cap on the number of programs authorized to cultivate, grow, sell, distribute, transport, or process hemp.

4. Annual Awards Showcasing New York Agriculture (Chapter 92 of the Laws of 2017/A.4051, Magee)

This law creates annual awards recognizing New York farmers, food businesses and institutions such as schools

that produce, process, market and promote New York farm products. The Advisory Council on Agriculture within the Department of Agriculture and Markets will make nominations to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets for the awards in recognition of exceptional performance and support for New York agriculture by New York State farms, businesses and institutions in the following categories:

- innovative and unique farm products developed for food, beverages, or horticulture;
- agri-tourism;
- foods or beverages processed or manufactured from New York farm products;
- retail food stores;
- restaurants and other food service; and
- education, health care and other institutional food service.

In addition, the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets and the Department of Economic Development will coordinate similar award programs for New York agriculture within the Department of Economic Development.

5. Elimination of Fees Paid by Milk Dealers and Farm Dealers (Chapter 123 of the Laws of 2017/A.8492, Magee)

The Department of Agriculture and Markets licenses Milk and Farm Product Dealers to ensure that New York State producers who sell to the dealers are paid fully and promptly, are paid in the event a dealer defaults and, are protected from unfair and fraudulent marketing practices. Milk Dealers include: farmers who process and sell milk produced from their own farm; milk haulers who transport bulk milk from farms to plants; distributors who purchase, sell, or distribute fluid milk product; and, processors who purchase milk to make cheese or other products or to process and distribute it for fluid use. Farm Product Dealers buy agricultural commodities such as fruits and vegetables from farmers for resale or processing, but someone who buys farm products to then sell at retail directly to consumers does not need to be licensed. The fees associated with licenses for Milk Dealers and Farm Product Dealers are based on sales volume and the dealers also have to pay into separate state administered security funds setup to protect farmers' financial interests when a dealer defaults.

This law eliminates outdated license fees of two or five dollars for all Milk Dealers, and the \$100 fee paid to the Agricultural Producers Security Fund by small business Farm Product Dealers who have sales of less than \$20,000 annually.

The law will also authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets to exempt small milk dealers who purchase less than 100,000 pounds of milk per month from paying into the Milk Producers Security Fund. It would still require payments to those farmers affected by defaults from small dealers, but the money would come from the Milk Dealers' license fee fund which the small milk dealers will continue to pay into.

6. Wholesale Fish (Chapter 344 of the Laws of 2017/A.3178, Kim)

This law requires that fish sold in sealed containers in wholesale markets be labeled with the identity, weight or standard measure or count, the name and address of the shipper, packer or distributor and the state of origin.

B. Support for Beginning Farmers

Agriculture is an important sector of New York's economy and is also a source of pride for many New Yorkers who value quality, locally grown products. Unfortunately, this industry cannot continue to grow if people find it difficult to access farmland and start their own farms. A recent survey of experts working to help facilitate access to, and transfers of, farms found that land is too expensive for beginning farmers and that more planning assistance was

needed for retiring farmers. The Committee on Agriculture has supported programs that assist farmers leaving and entering farming and developed legislation to promote identification of potential farmland for purchase or lease.

The Committee has made the support of beginning farmers a priority by approving legislation to make farmland more accessible and provide loans and grants to help beginning farmers get established.

**1. Access to Viable Agricultural Land for New and Beginning Farmers
(Veto #167/A.5060, Magee)**

This bill would have amended existing State agricultural laws to emphasize assistance for new and beginning farmers where appropriate. It would have required the State's Advisory Council on Agriculture to provide advice to state agencies regarding tax, financial assistance, and other policies and programs that could address the needs of beginning farmers and the issues they face related to the transfer of ownership of farms. It would have also encouraged the identification of properties owned by the State that are available for purchase or lease and viable for farming. This information would then have been made available on the Department of Agriculture and Market's website.

**2. Young Farmer Advisory Board
(Chapter 129 of the Laws of 2017 /A.6042, Magee)**

This law establishes a "young farmer" advisory board in the Department of Agriculture and Markets to advise and make recommendations to state agencies on state government plans, policies and programs affecting agriculture. The board will consist of 20 members, 10 appointed by the Governor, 5 by the Temporary President of the Senate and 5 by the Speaker of the Assembly. Four of the members will be designated representatives of the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Empire State Development Corporation, Future Farmers of America, and New York Farm Bureau, one member will represent urban farmers and 15 will be from the general public. The board will:

- communicate to the general public, the federal government, and State government the importance of young and beginning farmers;
- identify relevant issues;
- provide timely advice to the Commissioner, the Governor, and state agencies with regard to the promotion of agriculture as a career path for young and aspiring farmers;
- produce an annual report and provide it to the Governor, the Senate, and Assembly on policy issues affecting young and aspiring farmers; and
- establish committees, as necessary, to develop projects relating to the aspects of life for young and beginning farmers in the State.

C. 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 animal welfare and protect and assist pet owners and the public.

**1. Seizure and Security
(A.62-A, Paulin)**

Current law provides a mechanism to help cover the significant costs associated with caring for animals that have been seized and impounded when their owner has been charged with criminal abuse. The law authorizes the court to require the accused to post a bond in an account that can be accessed by the sheltering organization to assist with the costs of shelter and veterinary care. This bill would clarify that the impounding

organization must file a petition for the posting of a bond by the defendant in the same court where the criminal charges have been filed.

2. Elephant Protection Act (Chapter 333 of the Laws of 2017/A.464-B, Paulin)

The Elephant Protection Act defines the terms “elephant” and “entertainment act” and prohibits the use of elephants in entertainment acts such as circuses, exhibitions, trade shows, carnivals, rides, parades, races, or performances for the entertainment or amusement of a live audience. The law excludes institutions accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and wildlife sanctuaries. Any person that violates this provision is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 per violation. The Department of Environmental Conservation is prohibited from issuing any license or permit that would authorize the use of an elephant in an entertainment act.

3. Therapy Dogs (Chapter 497 of the Laws of 2017 Approval Memo #61/A.6801-A, Titone)

This bill would require the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets, in consultation with the Commissioners of the Department of Health and Division of Human Rights and representatives of the dog training industry, the disability community, and animal protection organizations, to evaluate and report on the need for:

- standards for therapy dogs including training, evaluation and certification requirements;
- identification of such dogs and information for the public about the rights and responsibilities of therapy dog owners in institutions and facilities; and
- regulation and/or public information related to the distinction between therapy dogs and service dogs or other similar animals such as emotional support animals.

4. Registration of Animal Shelter and Rescue Organizations (Chapter 168 of the Law of 2017/A.7195, Zebrowski)

This law will require duly incorporated societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, duly incorporated humane societies, animal protective associations, and other incorporated animal adoption or rescue organizations to register with the Department of Agriculture and Markets, provided they are exempt from the pet dealer law provisions and meet the requirements for registration created under this Chapter.

An application for registration must include:

- documentation of the applicants tax exempt designation, incorporation as a non-for-profit, and registration with the Attorney General;
- contact information for the organization;
- the number of animals taken in and adopted and transferred into or out of state, the number currently harbored by the applicant, and the species of animals typically taken in;
- a description of the facilities sheltering the animals; and
- a sworn statement signed by the applicant declaring eligibility for a pet dealer exemption.

The Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets will be authorized to deny any application or revoke any registration.

5. Microchip Standards (Chapter 470 of the Laws of 2017 Approval Memo #41/A.1839-B, Rosenthal)

This bill would require the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets to develop regulations to standardize the technology used for microchips in dogs and cats so microchip readers can read the information on any chip. The bill would authorize an advisory committee to make recommendations to the Commissioner on

technical standards for microchips and the readers. The regulations would also address the collection, sharing, dissemination and protection of identifying information of the owners.

In addition, the bill would require that within twenty-four hours of a companion animal being seized or taken possession of by animal control officers or shelters, it would need to be examined for all forms of identification including tags, microchips, tattoos, licenses or any other form of identification. The shelter in possession of the companion animal would then have to: compare information gleaned from the examination to records of animals reported as lost or stolen; post on the internet a photo and description of the animal if they have the capability; and, as soon as practical, make reasonable efforts to identify and notify the owner. These provisions for identification and notification would not take effect until the regulations required above for chips, readers and information sharing were adopted.

D. Hearings/Roundtables

Roundtable on Agricultural Technology - On September 27, 2017, the Committee and the Subcommittee on Agriculture Production & Technology co-sponsored a roundtable at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York to bring together Founders and Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of start-up and early stage companies in the Ag-Technology sector with researchers, funders, advisors and policy makers to discuss the opportunity for companies like these to start and grow in NYS. The CEOs expressed that some of the biggest barriers they face are access to capital and access to talent. Finding the right investors and right partners is a big component for these businesses to succeed.

Public Hearing on Oversight of the 2017-18 State Budget - On November 28, 2017, the Committee held a budget oversight hearing on programs funded in the 2017-18 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 2017-2018 budget and assess the impact and effectiveness of New York's agricultural programs. This hearing also examined the agricultural industry's economic significance to New York State and challenges that agricultural producers are facing in bringing their products to market. Those testifying included the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets, farmers who produce vegetables, maple syrup and dairy, Cornell University, companion animal protection advocates, a farmland preservation organization and school foodservice representatives. Those participating advocated for more funding to address agricultural research needs, protection of farms, marketing of New York farm products and support for animal shelters.

E. Agriculture Budget 2017-2018

In the SFY 2017-2018 Department of Agriculture and Markets budget, the Legislature included an estimated \$53 million for local assistance and \$109 million for State operations. Funding for capital projects totaled \$66 million, including \$55.5 million for the New York State Fair, \$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 organizations such as the NYS Apple Growers and the Cornell Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, added additional funds for Future Farmers of America, and new funding for the New York State Brewers Association, New York Cider Association, New York State Distillers Guild, and the Cornell Sheep Farming program and others.

An Add represents additional or new funding for a program compared to the previous year and a Restoration denotes the Legislature restoring funding to the previous year's level.

Agriculture and Markets (Local Assistance)	Governor's Budget	Legislative Changes		Enacted Budget
		Adds	Restorations	
Cornell Diagnostic Lab				
"Core" Diagnostic Lab	\$4,425,000		\$1,000,000	\$5,425,000
NYS Cattle Health Assurance Program	\$ 360,000			\$ 360,000
Quality Milk Production Services Program	\$1,174,000			\$1,174,000
Cornell University Johnes Disease Program	\$ 480,000			\$ 480,000
Cornell University Rabies Program	\$ 50,000		\$ 560,000	\$ 610,000
Cornell University Avian Disease Program	\$ 252,000			\$ 252,000
Other Cornell Programs				
Cornell University Agriculture in the Classroom	\$ 380,000			\$ 380,000
Cornell University Future Farmers of America	\$ 542,000	\$ 300,000		\$ 842,000
Association of Agricultural Educators	\$ 416,000			\$ 416,000
Cornell University Farm Family Assistance	\$ 384,000		\$ 416,000	\$ 800,000
Hop Evaluation and Field Testing Program	\$ 40,000		\$ 160,000	\$ 200,000
Cornell University Golden Nematode Program	\$ 62,000			\$ 62,000
Cornell University Pro-Dairy Program	\$ 822,000	\$ 112,000	\$ 266,000	\$1,200,000
Dairy Profit Teams	\$ 150,000			\$ 150,000

Agriculture and Markets (Local Assistance)	Governor's Budget	Legislative Changes		Enacted Budget
		Adds	Restorations	
Cornell University Onion Research			\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Cornell University Vegetable Research			\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Cornell University Honeybee Research			\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Cornell University Maple Research			\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000
Cornell University Berry Research			\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000
Cornell Veterans to Farms			\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000
Other Programs				
Ag Child Care (Migrant)	\$8,275,000		\$1,000,000	\$9,275,000
Local Fairs	\$ 340,000		\$ 160,000	\$ 500,000
New York Wine and Grape Foundation	\$ 713,000		\$ 307,000	\$1,020,000
New York Farm Viability Institute	\$ 400,000		\$1,500,000	\$1,900,000
Dairy Profit Teams/NY FVI			\$ 220,000	\$ 220,000
New York State Apple Growers Association	\$ 206,000		\$ 544,000	\$ 750,000
Apple Research and Development			\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Wood Products Development Council			\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Maple Producers Association			\$ 215,000	\$ 215,000
NY Corn and Soybean Growers			\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
Tractor Rollover Protection Program			\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Northern NY Agricultural Development			\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000
Eastern Equine Encephalitis			\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000
Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship			\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
North Country Low-cost Rabies Vaccine			\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
NY Christmas Tree Farmers			\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000
New York State Berry Growers			\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
Grown on LI			\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Genesee County Ag Academy			\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Island Harvest Food Bank			\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Taste NY	\$1,100,000			\$1,100,000
Farm-To-School	\$ 750,000			\$ 750,000
Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) Farm-to-School			\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
LI Deer Fencing			\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000

Agriculture and Markets (Local Assistance)	Governor's Budget	Legislative Changes		Enacted Budget
		Adds	Restorations	
Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program			\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Electronic Benefits Transfer	\$ 138,000			\$ 138,000
North Country Ag Academy		\$ 200,000		\$ 200,000
New Programs				
Chautauqua County Beekeepers Association		\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000
Cornell Labor Specialist		\$ 200,000		\$ 200,000
Seeds of Success (school gardens)		\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000
NYS Brewers Association		\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000
NY Cider Association		\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000
NYS Distillers Guild		\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000
Farmer Muck Boot Camp		\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000
Cornell Sheep Farming Program		\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000
Farm to Table Trail Program		\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000
Total	\$21,459,000	\$1,112,000	\$10,328,000	\$32,899,000

III. 2018 Outlook

In 2017, the Standing Committee on Agriculture continued to expand opportunities for farmers, especially new farmers, foster research to help farmers boost productivity, improve community access to local and healthy food, reduce costs for food businesses, protect agricultural land, and protect pets and other animals. In the coming year, the Committee expects to continue its past successes in approving policies and programs that support beginning and long-term farmers, protect agricultural lands and the continuation of farming on those lands and contribute to the financial success of farmers and farm-related businesses.

In addition, the Committee is committed to supporting the growth of the food industry as a whole by expanding opportunities for farmers and others to process local farm products and sell to wholesale and retail food and beverage markets, including food stores, wineries, breweries, cideries, distilleries and restaurants, as well as institutional buyers such as government agencies, schools, and universities.

Several measures to protect the health and safety of animals, and the interests of pet owners and consumers were approved in 2017 and these issues are expected to continue to be a significant part of the Committee's mission in the coming year.

**APPENDIX A
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ON ALL BILLS
REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
DURING THE 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Final Action	Assembly Bills	Senate Bills	Total Bills
<u>Bills Reported With or Without Amendment</u>			
To Floor; Not Returning to Committee (Favorable)	3	0	3
To Ways & Means	10	0	10
To Codes	12	0	12
To Rules	1	0	1
To Judiciary	0	0	0
Total	26	0	26
<u>Bills Having Committee Reference Changed</u>	0	0	0
<u>Senate Bills Substituted or Recalled</u>			
Substituted		3	3
Recalled		0	0
Total		3	3
<u>Bills Defeated in Committee</u>	0	0	0
<u>Bills Held for Consideration with a Roll-Call Vote</u>	0	0	0
<u>Bills Never Reported, Held in Committee</u>	1	0	1
<u>Bills Never Reported, Died in Committee</u>	128	31	159
<u>Bills Having Enacting Clauses Stricken</u>	3	0	3
<u>Motions to Discharge Lost</u>	0	0	0
TOTAL BILLS IN COMMITTEE	158	34	192
TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD	6		

APPENDIX B
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE CHAPTERS

Assembly Bill #	Sponsor	Description
A.464-B	Paulin	This law defines “elephant” and “entertainment act” and prohibits the use of elephants in any type of entertainment act. The law excludes institutions accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and wildlife sanctuaries. Any person that violates this provision will be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 per violation. Chapter 333 of the Laws of 2017
A.823-A	Stirpe	This law reduces the food processing license fee for small-scale processors from \$400 to \$175 per facility. Chapter 400 of the Laws of 2017
A.1839-B	Rosenthal	This bill would require the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets promulgate and set rules and regulations to standardize the technology used for microchips in companion animals that are dogs and cats so microchip readers can read any chip. Chapter 470 of the Laws of 2017 Approval Memo #41
A.3178	Kim	This law requires that fish sold in sealed containers in wholesale markets are labeled with the identity, weight or standard measure or count, name and address. Chapter 344 of the Laws of 2017
A.4051	Magee	This law establishes the Advisory Council on Agriculture in the Department of Agriculture and Markets to make nominations to the Commissioner for annual awards in recognition of exceptional performance and support for New York agriculture Chapter 92 of the Laws of 2017
A.5964	Magee	This law eliminates the requirement that wine ice cream be sold in a package of at least one pint. Chapter 40 of the Laws of 2017
A.6042	Magee	This law establishes a young farmer advisory board in the Department of Agriculture and Markets to advise and make recommendations to state agencies on state government plans, policies and programs affecting agriculture. Chapter 129 of the Laws of 2017
A.6801-A	Titone	This bill would require the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets to evaluate the need for the implementation of standards for therapy dogs. Chapter 497 of the Laws of 2017 Approval Memo #61
A.7195	Zebrowski	This law requires duly incorporated societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, and duly incorporated humane societies, animal protective associations or other incorporated animal adoption or rescue organizations to register with the Department of Agriculture and Markets. Chapter 168 of the Laws of 2017

A.8492	Magee	<p>This law eliminates license fees of two dollars and five dollars for a milk receiver's and a milk testing license. It will increase the minimum sales threshold for licensing and security bonding for farm products dealers from \$10,000 to \$20,000.</p> <p>Chapter 123 of the Laws of 2017</p>
A.8509	Lupardo	<p>This law adds the definition of industrial hemp in existing hemp law to the definition section of law regulating seeds, and to the Agriculture Districts law under the definition of crops. It also creates an industrial hemp seed certification program to set standards for seeds and plants to make sure they are suited for New York conditions and are stable in their tetrahydrocannabinol content.</p> <p>Chapter 88 of the Laws of 2017</p>

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

Assembly Bill #	Sponsor	Description
A.62-A	Paulin	This bill would clarify that when an animal is seized and impounded that the impounding organizations file a petition for the posting of a bond by a defendant in the same court where the criminal charges have been filed.
A.5060	Magee	This bill would authorize the Department of Agriculture and Markets responsibility for aiding efforts supporting the successful transfer of viable agricultural land from existing owners to new owners and operators, particularly beginning farmers. Veto #167