

RESOLUTION # 7

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE

1 **WHEREAS**, agriculture is a key part of New Jersey's economy, and contributes
2 greatly to the quality of life of the state's residents; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) endeavors to
4 help make New Jersey agriculture as successful as it can be in order to keep farming a
5 viable and profitable exercise in the state; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the issues that affect New Jersey agriculture frequently originate
7 from beyond the state's borders, and often relate to federal laws and regulations that
8 impact more than one state; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the agriculture departments of the nation's 50 states and its
10 territories are brought together as one unified force on agricultural policy through the
11 National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA); and

12 **WHEREAS**, NASDA has been an extremely successful advocate for the interests
13 of the state and territorial agriculture departments on issues that go beyond individual
14 state boundaries, such as the association's 2013 urging of Congress to direct the Food
15 and Drug Administration to rewrite proposed rules of the Food Safety Modernization Act,
16 since the initial drafts of those rules, in many sections, indicated a lack of sufficient
17 understanding of the agriculture industry on the part of those drafting the rules; and

18 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey values its membership in NASDA as a way of
19 mustering wider support for federal positions that best suit New Jersey's unique and
20 diverse agricultural industry; and

21 **WHEREAS**, NASDA will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2016, the same year in
22 which the NJDA celebrates its 100th year of serving agriculture.

23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the delegates to the 101st
24 State Agricultural Convention, assembled in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on February 10-
25 11, 2016, do hereby commend the good works of the National Association of State
26 Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) in representing the interests of agriculture
27 nationwide.

28 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we encourage the New Jersey Department of
29 Agriculture to maintain its active role in NASDA and to continue contributing to the
30 national dialogue on agricultural policy that NASDA fosters.