

**RESOLUTION # 9**

**MUNICIPAL SITE PLANS AND BUILDING CODES**

1           **WHEREAS**, agriculture is recognized as a unique land use in New Jersey; and

2           **WHEREAS**, municipalities, counties and the state have invested heavily in  
3 permanently preserving farmland and fostering an environment that is conducive to an  
4 economically viable commercial agriculture; and

5           **WHEREAS**, it is generally understood that agricultural land use regulations are  
6 necessarily different from commercial regulations because of agriculture’s unique place in  
7 state, regional and municipal planning; and

8           **WHEREAS**, the existing state building codes, as expressed in the Uniform  
9 Construction Code, have distinct and separate code requirements for commercial farm  
10 buildings that are consistent statewide.

11           **WHEREAS**, applicability of municipal site plan rules vary greatly from town to town  
12 and remain largely undefined in the Municipal Land Use Act.

13           **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the delegates to the 104<sup>th</sup> State  
14 Agricultural Convention, assembled in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on February 6-7, 2019, do  
15 hereby direct the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture to appoint a special working group  
16 to review, develop, and recommend appropriate rules and statutory changes to codify and  
17 define the applicability of municipal site plan review for commercial farms as defined in the  
18 Municipal Land Use Act.

19           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we direct the State Board of Agriculture to  
20 pursue an exemption for commercial fire inspections for buildings neither used by the public  
21 or for employee housing.