



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, pollinator species, such as bees and butterflies, are essential partners of farmers in producing much of our food supply; and

WHEREAS, the success of many of New Jersey's most popular and economically important crops, such as blueberries, apples, cranberries, cucumbers, squash and pumpkins, are dependent upon pollinators; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, pollination plays a vital role in the health of our State and national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resource and recreational opportunities, as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and

WHEREAS, the domesticated honeybee, *Apis mellifera*, is New Jersey's State Insect and a key pollinator in our State; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, the New Jersey Beekeepers Association (NJBA) and Rutgers University have worked cooperatively to increase the number of beekeepers through Bee-ginners Beekeeping Courses; and

WHEREAS, more than 3,500 beekeepers have been trained since 2006 and the NJBA's membership has increased to more than 1,600; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey strongly supports the cultivation of pollinators to ensure a robust agricultural industry and a sustainable food supply;

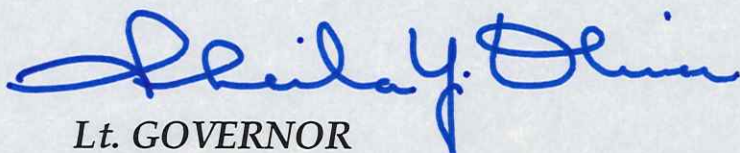
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

**JUNE 19 THROUGH JUNE 25, 2023
AS
POLLINATOR WEEK**

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-first day of April in the year two thousand twenty-three, the two hundred forty-seventh year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR