

CHAPTER 92

AN ACT concerning emergency management plans and amending P.L.1989, c. 222.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 18 of P.L.1989, c.222 (C.App.A:9-43.1) is amended to read as follows:

C.App.A:9-43.1 State Emergency Operations Plan.

18. The State Office of Emergency Management shall adopt, no later than 12 months following the effective date of this act, a State Emergency Operations Plan, including rules, regulations, and guidelines, that shall be reviewed and updated at least every two years. The plan shall include provisions, which shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, to support the needs of animals and individuals with an animal under their care, including a service animal, in a major disaster or emergency. In addition, the State Office of Emergency Management shall take appropriate steps to educate the public regarding the resources available in the event of an emergency and the importance of emergency preparedness planning.

2. Section 19 of P.L. 1989, c.222 (C.App.A:9-43.2) is amended to read as follows:

C.App.A:9-43.2 County, municipal written Emergency Operations Plans; coordination.

19. Each county and municipality in the State shall prepare a written Emergency Operations Plan with all appropriate annexes necessary to implement the plan. The development of all plans shall be coordinated with the Emergency Operations Plans of the State, county and neighboring municipalities to ensure a regional coordinated response and the efficient use of resources. These plans shall include provisions, which shall be developed in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, to support the needs of animals and individuals with an animal under their care, including a service animal, in a major disaster or emergency. Each Emergency Operations Plan shall be adopted no later than one year after the State Emergency Planning Guidelines have been adopted by the State Office of Emergency Management and shall be evaluated at such subsequent scheduled review of the State Emergency Operations Plan.

3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month after enactment.

Approved August 21, 2006.