

SENATOR FOR A DAY MOCK LEGISLATION

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE BILL**

NO. 9

**Session of 2025**

INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_ March 13, 2025

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REFERRED TO SENATE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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**Protect Pennsylvania's Farmland**

An act establishing the Prime Farmland Protection Act.

Section 1. Definition

a. "Prime agricultural land." Land with high productivity for agricultural operations, as designated by the Department of Agriculture, based on soil fertility, climate, water availability, and suitability for growing crops or supporting livestock.

b. "Solar energy facility." A facility that is designed for the supply of merchant power and utilizes solar energy to produce or distribute energy.

Section 2. No solar energy facility shall be located, constructed, or operated on land designated as prime agricultural land.

Section 3. The owner of prime agricultural land may apply for an exception. The Department of Agriculture shall create an application process for the designation of prime agricultural land and for granting exceptions.

Section 4. This act shall take effect in 30 days.