

7452

I N S E N A T E

May 21, 2012

Introduced by Sens. VALESKY, MAZIARZ, RITCHIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law and the agriculture and markets law, in relation to establishing a farm-to-senior program

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 14 and subdivision 15 of
2 section 202 of the elder law, paragraph (b) of subdivision 14 as amended
3 and subdivision 15 as added by chapter 263 of the laws of 2011, are
4 amended and a new subdivision 16 is added to read as follows:

5 (b) make recommendations, in consultation with the division of housing
6 and community renewal, to the governor and legislature for assisting
7 mixed-use age-integrated housing development or redevelopment demon-
8 stration projects in urban, suburban and rural areas of the state. The
9 director of the office for the aging and secretary of state shall estab-
10 lish an advisory committee for purposes of this subdivision. Such
11 committee shall include, but not be limited to, top representatives of
12 local government, senior citizen organizations, developers, senior
13 service providers and planners; [and]

14 15. to periodically, in consultation with the state director of
15 [veteran's] VETERANS' affairs, review the programs operated by the
16 office to ensure that the needs of the state's aging veteran population
17 are being met and to develop improvements to programs to meet such
18 needs[.]; AND

19 16. (A) IN COOPERATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND
20 MARKETS, TO ESTABLISH A FARM-TO-SENIOR PROGRAM TO FACILITATE AND PROMOTE
21 THE PURCHASE OF NEW YORK FARM PRODUCTS BY SENIOR CENTERS AND OTHER
22 INSTITUTIONS FOR THE AGING UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE OFFICE. THE
23 OFFICE SHALL MAKE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO FARMERS, FARM ORGANIZATIONS,
24 AND INSTITUTIONS FOR THE AGING INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING FARM-TO-SENIOR
25 PROGRAMS.

26 (B) IN COOPERATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS,
27 TO ESTABLISH A PROMOTIONAL EVENT, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "NEW YORK GOLDEN
28 HARVEST: SENIORS WEEK", TO PROMOTE NEW YORK AGRICULTURE AND FOODS TO

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 SENIORS AT SENIOR CENTERS, FARMS, FARMERS' MARKETS AND OTHER LOCATIONS
2 IN THE COMMUNITY. SUCH POWERS AND DUTIES SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE
3 LIMITED TO, COMPILING INFORMATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
4 MARKETS FROM SENIOR CENTERS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR THE AGING UNDER
5 THE JURISDICTION OF THE OFFICE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING NEW YORK FARM
6 PRODUCTS AND DISSEMINATING TO THOSE SENIOR CENTERS AND OTHER INSTI-
7 TUTIONS FOR THE AGING INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
8 MARKETS ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF NEW YORK FARM PRODUCTS, AND CONTACT
9 INFORMATION FOR FARMERS AND OTHER BUSINESSES MARKETING SUCH PRODUCTS.
10 THE DIRECTOR SHALL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE NEED FOR CHANGES IN
11 LAW TO FACILITATE THE PURCHASES OF SUCH PRODUCTS BY SENIOR CENTERS AND
12 OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR THE AGING.

13 S 2. Section 16 of the agriculture and markets law is amended by
14 adding a new subdivision 5-c to read as follows:

15 5-C. (A) ESTABLISH, IN COOPERATION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR
16 THE AGING, A FARM-TO-SENIOR PROGRAM TO FACILITATE AND PROMOTE THE
17 PURCHASE OF NEW YORK FARM PRODUCTS BY SENIOR CENTERS AND OTHER INSTI-
18 TUTIONS FOR THE AGING UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE OFFICE FOR THE
19 AGING. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SOLICIT INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE FOR THE
20 AGING REGARDING SENIOR CENTERS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR THE AGING
21 INTERESTED IN PURCHASING NEW YORK FARM PRODUCTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT
22 LIMITED TO, THE TYPE AND AMOUNT OF SUCH PRODUCTS SENIOR CENTERS WISH TO
23 PURCHASE AND THE NAME OF THE APPROPRIATE CONTACT PERSON FROM THE INTER-
24 ESTED SENIOR CENTER. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE THIS INFORMATION READILY
25 AVAILABLE TO INTERESTED NEW YORK FARMERS, FARM ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSI-
26 NESSES THAT MARKET NEW YORK FARM PRODUCTS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE
27 INFORMATION TO THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING AND INTERESTED SENIOR CENTERS
28 AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR THE AGING UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
29 OFFICE FOR THE AGING ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF NEW YORK FARM PRODUCTS,
30 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE TYPES AND AMOUNT OF PRODUCTS, AND THE
31 NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF FARMERS, FARM ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSI-
32 NESSES MARKETING SUCH PRODUCTS. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL REPORT TO THE
33 LEGISLATURE ON THE NEED FOR CHANGES IN LAW TO FACILITATE THE PURCHASES
34 OF SUCH PRODUCTS BY SENIOR CENTERS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR THE AGING
35 UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING.

36 (B) COORDINATE WITH THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING IN ESTABLISHING A PROMO-
37 TIONAL EVENT, TO BE KNOWN AS "NEW YORK GOLDEN HARVEST: SENIORS WEEK", TO
38 PROMOTE NEW YORK AGRICULTURE AND FOODS TO SENIORS AT SENIOR CENTERS,
39 FARMS, FARMERS' MARKETS AND OTHER LOCATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY.

40 S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
41 it shall have become a law, provided, however, that effective immediate-
42 ly, the director of the office for the aging and the commissioner of
43 agriculture and markets are authorized to promulgate any and all rules
44 and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act on or
45 before such effective date.