

4858

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 11, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. CRESPO, CASTRO, RODRIGUEZ, MOYA, SEPULVEDA, ESPI-
NAL, RAMOS, ARROYO, RIVERA -- read once and referred to the Committee
on Higher Education

AN ACT in relation to requiring the board of trustees of the state
university of New York and the board of trustees of the city universi-
ty of New York to conduct a study on the economic impact of the estab-
lishment of kitchen incubators on certain campuses

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

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby finds that in
2 order to improve the economic opportunities for its citizens and entre-
3 preneurs, it must use the established capabilities of its university
4 systems to offer space and resources to the next generation of food
5 manufacturing businesses.
6 It has been documented that the chief obstacle for start-up food manu-
7 facturing businesses is their inability to access affordable commercial
8 kitchen space. Currently all over the state, there are only a few kitch-
9 en incubators facing high demand and unable to meet the needs of the
10 many potential start-up businesses.
11 Kitchen incubators are valuable resources for New York state as it
12 moves to promote more job development, business development and
13 increased tax revenues.
14 In New York City alone, there are more than 900 food firms, with over
15 16,000 employees and another 2,500 who are self-employed. This has been
16 viewed as evidence of entrepreneurs' intent on developing their food
17 manufacturing ideas into full scale production capabilities and fully
18 functional business entities.
19 Minority and immigrant populations are growing significantly through-
20 out the state and so are their number in entrepreneurship activities,
21 including in the development of foods from their native place of origin

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

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1 and this creates growing demand for such foods by increasing minority
2 and immigrant communities.

3 Kitchen incubators housed at select college campuses throughout New
4 York state and New York city will help develop new entrepreneurs and
5 increase the economic benefits of such activities for the entire state.

6 However, New York must do more to propel these business start-ups and
7 potential manufacturers into full scale operations and should move to
8 allow its university systems to expand their regional economic catalyst
9 activities to serve entrepreneurs looking to enter the food manufactur-
10 ing sector.

11 S 2. For purposes of this act, the term "kitchen incubator" shall mean
12 an affordable small space with shared ovens, ranges, industrial mixers
13 and other commercial kitchen equipment, to be rented by entrepreneurs to
14 assist them in the development and/or manufacturing of food products for
15 commercial purposes.

16 S 3. a. The board of trustees of the state university of New York and
17 the board of trustees of the city university of New York shall conduct a
18 study to examine the potential economic impact for the state and the
19 city of New York, and their campuses if the state university of New York
20 established kitchen incubators at the four state university centers at
21 Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo and Stony Brook, and certain campuses of the
22 city university of New York to be selected by the board of trustees of
23 the city university of New York campus and other campuses which have
24 been identified by the board of trustees of the state university of New
25 York and the board of trustees of the city university of New York as
26 having a growing minority and/or immigrant population as documented by
27 the federal census.

28 b. A report by the board of trustees of the state university of New
29 York and a report by the board of trustees of the city university of New
30 York containing the information required by this section and recommenda-
31 tions for the creation, funding and future expansion of kitchen incuba-
32 tors on their campuses, shall be submitted to the governor and the
33 legislature not later than April 15, 2017.

34 S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.