

7180

I N S E N A T E

May 2, 2014

Introduced by Sen. VALESKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to encouraging community-based organizations to increase opportunities for seniors to participate in community gardens

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 4 of section 31-j of the agri-  
2 culture and markets law, as added by chapter 528 of the laws of 2013, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (a) The goals of the task force may include, but are not limited to,  
5 the study, evaluation and development of recommendations: (i) to encour-  
6 age the establishment and expansion of community gardens by state agen-  
7 cies, municipal governments and private parties, (ii) to encourage coop-  
8 eration between the activities and operations of community gardens and  
9 provision of donated food to local voluntary food assistance programs  
10 for the poor and disadvantaged, [and] (iii) to increase the benefits  
11 that community gardens may provide to the local community in which they  
12 are located, AND (IV) TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITY-BASED  
13 ORGANIZATIONS TO INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS, THOSE AGED  
14 SIXTY-TWO YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY GARDENS.

15 S 2. Paragraph e of subdivision 2 of section 31-h of the agriculture  
16 and markets law, as added by chapter 528 of the laws of 2013, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 e. Assist, support and encourage contact and cooperation between, and  
19 the cooperative sharing of resources between community garden groups,  
20 school garden programs and local voluntary food assistance programs,  
21 such as community food pantries, soup kitchens, SENIOR CENTERS, and  
22 other community and not-for-profit organizations that provide or  
23 distribute food to the ELDERLY, poor, and disadvantaged. Such support  
24 can include the provision of surplus community garden food or other  
25 agricultural products to such local voluntary food assistance programs;  
26 and

27 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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