STATE OF NEW YORK

613

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 9, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER, RAIA -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. MAGEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to the purchase of farm products by municipalities

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 103 of the general municipal law is amended by 2 adding a new subdivision 9-a to read as follows:

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- 9-a. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section to the 4 contrary, a county may separately purchase eggs, livestock, fish, dairy products, juice, grains, and species of fresh fruit and vegetables directly from New York state producers or growers, or associations of producers and growers, provided that:
- (a) such association of producers or growers is comprised of ten or fewer owners of farms who also operate such farms and who have combined to fill the order of a county as herein authorized, provided however, 10 that a county may apply to the commissioner of the office of general services for permission to purchase from an association of more than ten owners of such farms when no other producers or growers have offered to 14 sell to such county;
- 15 (b) the amount that may be expended by a county in any fiscal year for 16 <u>such purchases shall not exceed the greater of:</u>
- 17 (i) the expenditure threshold provided in subdivision one of this 18 section; or
 - (ii) twenty cents multiplied by the total population of such county;
- 20 (c) all such purchases shall be administered pursuant to regulations 21 promulgated by the commissioner of the office of general services and 22 developed in consultation with the commissioner of the department of 23 agriculture and markets. Such regulations shall ensure that the prices paid by a county for any items so purchased do not exceed the prices of 25 comparable local farm products that are available to the political

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

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1 subdivision or district therein through their usual purchases of such items; include provisions for situations when more than one producer or grower seeks to sell the same product to a county to ensure that all such producers or growers have an equitable opportunity to do so in a manner similar to the usual purchasing practices of such county; include guidelines for the approval of purchases of items from associations of more than ten growers or producers; and, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize additional paperwork, recordkeeping and other similar 9 requirements on both growers and producers and counties. 10

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.