

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2178

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 23, 2019

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

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to establishing a healthy savings pilot program

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

1 Section 1. Article 2 of the public health law is amended by adding a  
2 new title 7 to read as follows:

### TITLE VII

#### HEALTHY SAVINGS PILOT PROGRAM

3 Section 268. Healthy savings pilot program.

4  
5 § 268. Healthy savings pilot program. 1. There shall be established in  
6 the department, by the commissioner, a healthy savings pilot program  
7 designed to reduce food insecurity and health inequity through the use  
8 of discounts on healthier food choices at grocery stores and supermar-  
9 kets.

10  
11 2. The department shall, through its own means or by partnering with a  
12 company which implements healthy savings initiatives, create a pilot  
13 program which meets the following specifications:

14 (a) at least one million people shall have access to the program  
15 across the program;

16 (b) the program shall have a companion phone application and website  
17 for showing which healthy food items are being offered at a discount at  
18 that time and where they can be purchased;

19 (c) discount cards shall be issued to those who apply for the program  
20 which facilitate the purchase of healthy food items at a discount;

21 (d) discounts in participating grocery stores and supermarkets shall  
22 be on at least the healthiest quarter of items sold in such location as  
23 determined by the commissioner; and

24 (e) the program shall be implemented in sections of three cities where  
25 food insecurity and health inequity are a health issue.

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

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1     3. The department shall pursue available funding and cost reduction  
2     options and make efforts to establish a public-private partnership with  
3     grocery stores, supermarkets, and organizations that promote healthy  
4     food choices.

5     4. The department shall be responsible for monitoring the quality,  
6     appropriateness and effectiveness of the program and shall report to the  
7     legislature within one year of the effective date of this section, and  
8     each year on January first of each year thereafter, on the program's  
9     effectiveness.

10    § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.