STATE OF NEW YORK

6241

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 10, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. FAHY -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to greenhouse gas emissions in foods

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 204 to read as follows:

§ 204. Greenhouse gas emissions in foods. 1. To track the greenhouse gas emissions associated with food purchases made by state agencies, the office of general services shall:

(a) on or before January first, two thousand twenty-three, in consultation with the department of environmental conservation, establish a methodology for state agencies to estimate, to the extent practicable, the greenhouse gas emissions that occur through the life cycle of all food and beverages purchased by the state agency, including third-party vendors that provide food on behalf of the state agency, that:

(i) will enable a state agency to reliably track changes in its food-related greenhouse gas emissions over time and demonstrate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions associated with food and beverages purchased by the state agency;

(ii) may allow a state agency to exclude from the tracking method food and beverage procurements that do not exceed fifteen thousand dollars; and

(iii) considers the costs and feasibility of implementing the tracking method;

(b) on or before January first, two thousand twenty-four, establish a baseline measurement of the overall annual greenhouse gas emissions associated with the state's food and beverage purchases; and

(c) in consultation with the department of environmental conservation, establish best practices for state agencies to reduce the greenhouse gas

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

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emissions associated with food and beverages purchased by the state agency with the goal of reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions as established under paragraph (b) of this subdivision, including recommendations for reducing food waste and decreasing the total amount of animal-based products purchased.

2. Each state agency shall give consideration and preference to foods, beverages, and procurement practices that achieve the goal of reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with food and beverages purchased by the state agency.

3. It is the goal of the office of general services to reduce the overall greenhouse gas emissions associated with food and beverages purchased by state procurement according to the following reduction schedule as measured in relation to the baseline measurement established under paragraph (b) of subdivision one of this section:

(a) for fiscal year two thousand twenty-five, a ten percent reduction;

(b) for fiscal year two thousand twenty-eight, an eighteen percent reduction; and

(c) for fiscal year two thousand thirty-one, a twenty-five percent reduction.

4. On or before August first, two thousand twenty-five, and each August first thereafter, each state agency shall report to the office of general services on such state agency's progress in reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with food and beverages procured by the state agency during the immediately preceding fiscal year in a format set by the office of general services, in consultation with the department of environmental conservation, and consistent with the methodology established under paragraph (a) of subdivision one of this section.

5. Beginning with the annual report submitted in two thousand twenty-five as required under subdivision four of this section, the office of general services shall include in its annual report:

(a) an update on the overall progress of the state in reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with food and beverages procured by the state; and

(b) recommendations for policy changes to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions from food or to achieve more quickly the reduction goals established under this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.