

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4242

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

February 3, 2021

Introduced by Sens. STAVISKY, MYRIE -- 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 physician course-  
work or training in nutrition

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

1 Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section  
2 264 to read as follows:

3 § 264. Coursework or training in nutrition. (a) Every physician prac-  
4 ticing in the state shall, on or before July first, two thousand twen-  
5 ty-five and every two years thereafter, complete six hours of coursework  
6 or training, approved by the department regarding nutrition, which shall  
7 include but not be limited to plant-based nutrition and other clinically  
8 proven methods for the prevention, reversal, and treatment of diet-re-  
9 lated illnesses.

10 (b) Every physician must provide the department documentation demon-  
11 strating the completion of and competence in the coursework or training  
12 required under subdivision (a) of this section.

13 (c) The department shall provide an exemption for the requirements  
14 imposed by subdivision (a) of this section to anyone who requests such  
15 exemption and who: (i) does not engage in direct patient care; (ii) does  
16 not provide patient consultations; or (iii) does not reside in the state  
17 of New York.

18 (d) The department shall consult with organizations representative of  
19 professions, institutions and those with expertise in nutrition and the  
20 prevention, reversal, and treatment of diet-related illnesses with  
21 respect to the regulatory standards promulgated pursuant to this  
22 section. Coursework or training funded directly or indirectly by  
23 commercial food production entities or their trade organizations shall  
24 not satisfy the requirements of this section.

25 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD00495-01-1