STATE OF NEW YORK

4748--B

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 14, 2023

Introduced by Sen. RAMOS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to requiring religious dietary food options in prison commissaries and visitor's areas

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

Section 1. The correction law is amended by adding a new section 134 to read as follows:

§ 134. Religious dietary requirements. 1. The commissary at each correctional facility shall provide food options for purchase through the facility commissary that satisfy the requirements of religious dietary needs of the incarcerated individuals housed at the facility, including, but not limited to halal foods and kosher foods. Food options available pursuant to this subdivision shall conform to the standards typically associated with the particular religious dietary requirements; provided, however, that if one or more incarcerated individuals housed at the facility requires food products that conform to a higher religious dietary standard, such products shall also be made available through the commissary upon request of the individual requiring such options.

2. Each correctional facility shall provide food options for purchase from vending machines located in the visitor's area of the facility that satisfy the requirements of religious dietary needs of the incarcerated individuals housed at the facility, including, but not limited to halal foods and kosher foods.

3. For food options available through both the commissary and from vending machines, the prices for food options that conform to the

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

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requirements of this section shall be comparable to the cost of food options that do not conform to the requirements of this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.