STATE OF NEW YORK

1385

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 11, 2023

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

AN ACT relating to funding for food banks, emergency food providers, or other participating entities to purchase food products from New York farmers and processors for distribution to New Yorkers experiencing hunger or food insecurity

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

Section 1. 1. For purposes of this act, "regional food hub" shall mean a business or organization that actively manages the aggregation, distribution, and marketing of source-identified food products primarily from local and regional producers to strengthen their ability to satisfy wholesale, retail, and institutional demand.

2. $25,000,000 of monies that have been allocated to the state of New York by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-136), or any future federal stimulus funding, that have not otherwise been obligated, shall be allocated to a state program or initiative already in existence or established after the effective date of this act, that provides funding to food banks, emergency food providers, or other participating entities within the state to purchase food products from New York farmers and processors for distribution to New Yorkers experiencing hunger or food insecurity.

3. Such program or initiative shall, to the extent practicable, prioritize the sourcing of food products from producers, processors, and regional food hubs within the same geographic region as the food banks, emergency food providers, or other entities participating in such program or initiative.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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