

STATE OF NEW YORK

4425

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 8, 2023

Introduced by Sen. FERNANDEZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Procurement and Contracts

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:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (c) in consultation with the department of environmental conservation,
25 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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1 emissions associated with food and beverages purchased by the state
2 agency with the goal of reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions as
3 established under paragraph (b) of this subdivision, including recommen-
4 dations for reducing food waste and decreasing the total amount of
5 animal-based products purchased.

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

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

15 (a) for fiscal year two thousand twenty-seven, a ten percent
16 reduction;

17 (b) for fiscal year two thousand thirty, an eighteen percent
18 reduction; and

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

21 4. On or before August first, two thousand twenty-seven, and each
22 August first thereafter, each state agency shall report to the office of
23 general services on such state agency's progress in reducing the green-
24 house gas emissions associated with food and beverages procured by the
25 state agency during the immediately preceding fiscal year in a format
26 set by the office of general services, in consultation with the depart-
27 ment of environmental conservation, and consistent with the methodology
28 established under paragraph (a) of subdivision one of this section.

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

32 (a) an update on the overall progress of the state in reducing green-
33 house gas emissions associated with food and beverages procured by the
34 state; and

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

38 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
39 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-
40 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-
41 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
42 completed on or before such effective date.