

STATE OF NEW YORK

4748--A

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

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:

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

3 § 134. Religious dietary requirements. 1. The commissary at each
4 correctional facility shall provide food options for purchase through
5 the facility commissary that satisfy the requirements of religious
6 dietary needs of the incarcerated individuals housed at the facility,
7 including, but not limited to halal foods and kosher foods. Food
8 options available pursuant to this subdivision shall conform to the
9 standards typically associated with the particular religious dietary
10 requirements; provided, however, that if one or more incarcerated indi-
11 viduals housed at the facility requires food products that conform to a
12 higher religious dietary standard, such products shall also be made
13 available through the commissary upon request of the individual requir-
14 ing such options.

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

20 3. For food options available through both the commissary and through
21 vending machines, the prices for food available through the commissary
22 shall not exceed the price of the comparable food through the vending
23 machines.

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

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

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