STATE OF NEW YORK

4740

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 12, 2025

Introduced by Sen. SEPULVEDA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities 1

AN ACT to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the disposal of seized perishable or canned foods

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

Section 1. Section 20-468 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new subdivision g to read as follows:

g. (1) If perishable or canned foods are seized from a general vendor, such items shall be taken to the nearest food relief organization and/or homeless shelter. Perishable and canned foods shall not be discarded.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(i) "perishable foods" are any food that may spoil or otherwise become unfit for human consumption because of its nature, type or physical condition. Perishable food shall include, but is not limited to, fresh or processed meats, poultry, seafood, dairy products, bakery products, eggs in the shell, fresh fruits or vegetables and foods that have been packaged, refrigerated or frozen, or otherwise require refrigeration to remain nonperishable. Perishable food shall not include game or wild game;

(ii) "canned foods" are any food that has been hermetically sealed in a can and commercially processed and prepared for human consumption, including preserved fruits, vegetables, or other food items; and

(iii) "food relief organization" means a religious organization or other not-for-profit that provides food for free to persons experiencing food insecurity, including but not limited to a food pantry, food bank, or soup kitchen or community-based organization that provides food for free to persons experiencing food insecurity.

§ 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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