STATE OF NEW YORK

8580

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

November 14, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to requiring merchants to round cash purchases to the nearest five cent denomination in order to reduce the circulation of pennies within New York state

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "New Yorkers for Common Cents Act".

§ 2. The general business law is amended by adding a new section 399-ooo to read as follows:

§ 399-ooo. 1. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Merchant" shall mean any person, corporation, or partnership engaged in the business of the sale of goods or services engaging in face-to-face, in-person sales.

(b) "Legal tender" shall mean all coins and currencies of the United States.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any merchant doing business in this state shall determine the total price of such goods or services in the following manner:

(a) prices of goods and services shall be totaled, any discount or deduction therefor made, and sales tax or other tax imposed, if any, added to that total in accordance with the law of the municipality in which such goods or services are sold; and

(b)(i) if a mill, one cent, two cents, six cents, or seven cents is at the end of the resulting sum, that sum shall be rounded down to the nearest amount divisible by five for those individuals seeking to pay therefor with legal tender; or

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

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(ii) if three cents, four cents, eight cents, or nine cents is at the end of the resulting sum, that sum shall be rounded up to the nearest amount divisible by five for those individuals seeking to pay therefor with legal tender.

3. The provisions of subdivision one of this section shall not apply to the following:

(a) transactions for which the total amount is four cents or less; or

(b) transactions for which payment is made by any demand or negotiable instrument, electronic fund transfer, money order, credit card, debit card, electronic payment, or other like instrument.

4. Any tax imposed by state or municipal taxing authorities shall not apply to gains or losses resulting from rounding.

5. The superintendent of the department of financial services may promulgate regulations to implement this section, including, but not limited to, authorization of exemptions or exclusions from this section.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.