2017 New York Senate Bill No. 5664, New York Two Hundred Thirty-Ninth Legislative Session

NEW YORK BILL TEXT

TITLE: Authorizes the commissioner of education to establish guidelines providing for donation of excess, unused, edible food from school meals to food assistance programs.

VERSION: Adopted
September 13, 2017
Klein, Jeffrey D.

SUMMARY: Ortiz (MS) KLEIN, ADDABBO, AVELLA, BOYLE, CARLUCCI, HOYLMAN, LATIMER, MARCHIONE, MONTGOMERY, PARKER, RITCHIE, SAVINO, SERRANO Amd i16, Ag & Mkts L; amd i305, Ed L Directs the commissioner of education, in cooperation with the commissioner of agriculture and markets, to establish voluntary guidelines to provide for the donation of excess, unused, edible food from school, university or other educational institutions' meal programs to voluntary food assistance programs.

TEXT:

LAWS OF NEW YORK, 2017

CHAPTER 316

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law and the education law, in relation to authorizing school districts and institutions of higher education to donate excess food to local voluntary food assistance programs

Became a law September 13, 2017, with the approval of the Governor.

Passed by a majority vote, three-fifths being present.

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

Section 1. Section 16 of the agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new subdivision 5-c to read as follows:

5-c. Cooperate with the commissioner of education, pursuant to subdivision fifty-six of section three hundred five of the education law, to develop guidelines for the voluntary implementation by school districts and institutions of higher education of programs which encourage the donation of excess, unused, edible food from meals served at such educational facilities to local voluntary food assistance programs.

§ 2. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 56 to read as follows:

56. The commissioner, in consultation and cooperation with the commissioner of agriculture and markets, may develop guidelines to encourage school districts and institutions of higher education to donate excess, unused, edible food from meals served at such educational facilities to local voluntary food assistance programs including, but not limited to, community
food pantries, soup kitchens, and other community and not-for-profit organizations that distribute food to the poor and disadvantaged. Such guidelines developed concerning donated food shall comply with all federal, state and local public health laws, rules and regulations that govern food safety and food donation.

Such guidelines may include, but not be limited to:

a. a procedure to provide information to school districts, institutions of higher education and local voluntary food assistance programs of the provisions of such guidelines; b. notification to educational institutions of their ability to elect to donate excess, unused, edible food to local voluntary food assistance programs; and c. information and technical assistance on how school districts and institutions of higher education may best donate excess food in a safe and sanitary manner.

The commissioner shall coordinate the implementation of such guidelines with the farm-to-school program established pursuant to subdivision five-b of section sixteen of the agriculture and markets law.

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

The Legislature of the STATE OF NEW YORK ss:

Pursuant to the authority vested in us by section 70-b of the Public Officers Law, we hereby jointly certify that this slip copy of this session law was printed under our direction and, in accordance with such section, is entitled to be read into evidence.

JOHN J. FLANAGAN CARL E. HEASTIE Temporary President of the Senate Speaker of the Assembly