

Capalino + Company

Government and Community Relations Advocates

TO: CAPALINO+COMPANY TEAM
FROM: BEN KLEINBAUM
SUBJECT: PRECONSIDERED INT 615
DATE: 6/29/2011
CC:

Preconsidered INT 615, introduced by Council Member Dickens on June 28th, would require the City provide a yearly report on food production and consumption in New York City. The Mayor's office would need to provide statistics on 33 different topics including the amount each agency spends on food and where the food comes from, rail and truck trips into Hunts Point for the market, and the amount of money earned by the Department of Education from vending machines.

A hearing was held on June 16th for the bill by the Committee on Governmental Operations. The Mayor's office testified that it supported the idea of the bill but believed that for some topics to collect information would be too onerous, too expensive or infeasible. Kim Kessler, the Food Policy Coordinator for New York City, specifically singled out the requirements for data on the country and state of origin for the food the DOE buys, data on the amount of grocery space and information related to Hunts Point.

The bill would require the first report to be published in December 2011. It is currently in the Committee on Governmental Relations.

By Council Member Dickens

A Local Law to amend the New York city charter, in relation to establishing reporting requirements regarding the production, processing, distribution and consumption of food in and for the city.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section 20 of Chapter 1 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new subdivision j to read as follows:

j. Annual city food system metrics report. 1. No later than December 1, 2011, and no later than every December 1 thereafter, the director shall prepare and submit to the mayor and the speaker of the city council a report regarding the production, processing, distribution and consumption of food in and for the city. Such report shall include:

i. the number, size in acres, county, type of production of, and annual dollar amount of city financial support received by, farms participating in the Department of Environmental Protection watershed program;

ii. the total dollar amount of annual city expenditures on food products, and, for each agency, the dollar amount of such expenditures disaggregated and sorted by the country and state of origin in which the essential components of such food products were grown, agriculturally produced, harvested and processed;

iii. the location, by community board, and size in square feet of each community or agency garden in the city, and whether each such garden engages in food production;

iv. the number of food manufacturing businesses listed in VENDEX;

v. the number and value of city contracts awarded to food processors located in the city;

vi. the number of food manufacturers receiving monetary benefits from the Economic Development Corporation or Industrial Development Agency and the annual dollar amount of such benefits per food manufacturer;

vii. for each of the respective produce, meat, and fish markets at Hunts Point Market, the volume and weight of food sold or distributed annually, the mode of transportation by which such food arrives, and the country and state of origin of such food;

viii. the estimated annual energy usage at the Hunts Point Produce Market;

ix. the daily number of truck and rail trips to or through Hunts Point Market for the purpose of delivering food to Hunts Point Market;

x. for the report due no later than December 1, 2013, and in every fifth report thereafter, the amount of grocery store space per capita, sorted by neighborhood, and the number of grocery stores opening during the past five calendar years, sorted by neighborhood; for purposes of this subdivision, a grocery store shall be defined as an establishment primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, including canned and frozen foods, fresh fruits and vegetables, and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry;

xi. the number, neighborhood, and number of employees, of grocery stores receiving benefits under the FRESH program;

xii. the number of establishments participating in the healthy bodega program, sorted by borough;

xiii. the total number of permitted restaurants in the city;

xiv. the number and borough of job training programs administered annually by the Department of Small Businesses Services or the Workforce Investment Board to aid individuals seeking work in food manufacturing, food supply, food service or related industries;

xv. the total number of food insecure households in the city, as measured by the Community Health Survey;

xvi. the number of meals served by the city on a monthly and annual basis, sorted by community board;

xvii. the percentage of agency-provided meals meeting the agency nutritional guidelines set forth by the mayor pursuant to Executive Order 122 of 2008;

xviii. the number of, and amount of annual revenue earned from vending machines on Department of Education property;

xix. the number of seniors receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits annually;

xx. the number of applicants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program not also applying for cash assistance that were subject to finger imaging annually, the amount of city tax levy spent on conducting such finger imaging, the number of cases of fraud detected by finger imaging, and the number of applicants referred for criminal prosecution on account of information obtained by finger imaging;

xxi. the number, borough, and description of, and dollar amount spent on, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program outreach programs annually;

xxii. the number, borough, description of, and dollar amount spent on, city-administered nutrition education programs annually;

xxiii. the number of salad bars in city schools and hospitals, respectively, sorted by borough;

xiv. the total amount expended by the city annually to purchase water other than tap water;

xxv. the number, borough, and EBT enrollment status of cart operators participating in the city's Green Cart Initiative;

xxvi. the number of, and average number of vendors at, greenmarkets, farmers' markets and similar markets held on city property, sorted by borough;

xxvii. the volume of food served annually through city-administered emergency food programs;

xxviii. the number and type of food vending permits, sorted by borough, issued each year by the Department of Parks and Recreation to special event vendors and others concessionaires that follow Department of Health and Mental Hygiene nutritional guidelines issued pursuant to Executive Order 122 of 2008 and calorie labeling requirements;

xxix. the total number of catering licenses issued in the calendar year immediately preceding the year of publication of the report required by this local law;

xxx. the number of city employees that are certified to handle food by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, sorted by agency;

xxxi. the amount of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits used at greenmarkets, farmers' markets or similar markets annually;

xxxii. the number of compost haulers doing business in the city and their volume hauled; and

xxxiii. the number of grease haulers doing business in the city and their volume hauled.

2. Each annual report prepared pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be made available to the public at no charge on the city's website.

§ 2. This local law shall take effect immediately.

6/6/11
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