



**ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK STATE YMCAs
YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT
Legislative Bill**

Bill # 42

**Referred to Committee:
6**

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Action on the Bill

Assembly

Senate

___ Passed

___ Passed

___ Defeated

___ Defeated

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AN ACT TO: Make agriculture and other healthy foods more available to everyone.

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

Purpose

The purpose of this bill is to make fruits and vegetables more accessible to less fortunate citizens. The bill will increase funding towards SNAP and its users will only be charged 75% of the price.

Summary of Provisions

Section 1:

SNAP- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; food stamps

Section 2:

This bill will increase funding for SNAP. It will also allow SNAP users to only have to pay 75% of the price of any fruit or vegetable. The grocery store that the fruit or vegetable is bought from will not charge the customer. SNAP would electronically receive the receipt. SNAP would then pay back the dues to grocery stores.

Justification

Kids and adults everywhere are having to live with an issue that should not exist. Either they are less fortunate or cannot reach a proper supermarket with fruit, and are forced into obesity with the foods they can afford or the foods they can reach conveniently. 1 in 5 children kindergarten are obese in the state of New York. In addition 1 in 4 Head Start children, or low-income families that depend on the Department of Health and Human Services, are also obese. Obesity can start at an early age, causing it to be harder and harder to prevent it. Obesity can cause diabetes, and heart disease. Unhealthy foods have been shown to cause bad attitudes, as these processed foods don't provide enough energy since they are filled with sugar. Sugary foods leave you feeling energized for a while, but after you get really tired. You would also be hungry, this would leave you upset. Allowing fruits and vegetables to be more available to low-income families, will hopefully prevent obesity. There won't be any financial complications between New York State's Legislature as the transaction will be done electronically. If this bill is passed it will have a big impact on many of New York's low income residents.

Fiscal Implications

For New York State residents this bill will positively impact them. Citizens using food stamps will not have to pay the full price of fruits or vegetables. Part of the funding from New York State's Health department will be used for SNAP.

Effective Date

If passed this bill will go into effect one month after passage.