

Fiscal Impact Statement Prepared By New York City Mayor's Office of Management and Budget



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Disclaimer: This fiscal impact statement is a preliminary estimate and subject to change based upon further data analysis or changes in bill text. This legislation is summarized as understood by the administration as of the date this statement was prepared and does not include or consider subsequent text changes. This fiscal impact statement is not legally binding on the administration. "Total" columns represent the respective sum over a four-year period; note that fiscal impacts continue after year four. Unless otherwise stated, information used in the preparation of this Fiscal Impact Statement is sourced from the agencies impacted and the NYC Mayor's Office of Management and Budget.

Proposed Intro No. / Title: *Int. 998 / A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to cooling centers*

Sponsors: Powers, Vernikov, Holden, Carr, Brannan, Hanks, Restler, Avilés, Abreu, Banks, Ossé, Salaam, Gennaro, Brooks-Powers, Nurse, Stevens, Hudson, Joseph, Krishnan, Brewer, Won, Narcisse, Hanif, Schulman, Ayala, Bottcher, Menin, Rivera, Williams, Cabán, Marte, De La Rosa, Ung, Louis, Salamanca, Sanchez, Farías, Lee, Zhuang, Riley, Moya, Feliz, Dinowitz and Gutiérrez

Committee: Committee on Health

Summary of Legislation: This legislation codifies cooling centers and mandates the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) in conjunction with New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM) to operate cooling centers when there is a poor air quality index, in addition to heat-related emergencies. DOHMH must annually post center availabilities online by May 1st and conduct public outreach. DOHMH is also required to conduct an annual citywide survey and submit a report that includes funding needs.

Effective Date: 60 days after enactment

First Fiscal Year Legislation Takes Effect: Fiscal Year 2026

First Fiscal Year with Full Impact: Fiscal Year 2028

Agencies Impacted: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, New York City Emergency Management

Fiscal Impact Analysis

A. Total Impact (Expense and Revenue)

	Fiscal Year 1	Fiscal Year 2	Fiscal Year 3	Fiscal Year 4	Total
Expense	\$198,400	\$3,698,400	\$99,075,600	\$99,075,600	\$202,048,000
Revenue	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$198,400	\$3,698,400	\$99,075,600	\$99,075,600	\$202,048,000

B. Expense

Date Prepared:

April 5, 2025

	Fiscal Year 1	Fiscal Year 2	Fiscal Year 3	Fiscal Year 4	Total
Expenditures	\$198,400	\$3,698,400	\$99,075,600	\$99,075,600	\$202,048,000

Impact on Expenditures (Expense):

To operate centers whenever there is an emergency air quality alert, it is anticipated NYCEM would require \$202,048,000 over four years.

In year 1 and thereafter, NYCEM requires \$198,400 in annual Personnel Services (PS) resources for salary and fringe benefits to hire two central staff to help facilitate the program.

In year 2, NYCEM requires \$3,500,000 in one-time Other than Personnel Services (OTPS) resources to contract with a consulting firm to survey existing facilities and develop plans to retrofit them.

In year 3 and thereafter, NYCEM requires approximately \$2,200 in PS overtime costs during air quality emergency activations periods for staff to operate a site for 8 hours (\$6,600 for 24 hours). This is based on current overtime costs to operate centers during cooling emergency activation periods.

In 2024, NYCEM issued air quality alerts on 21 days. If this operation were in place for the same number of days, then the staff OT costs for activation would be approximately \$138,600 annually per site. Based on the legislative language, it is estimated NYCEM would operate approximately 492 sites. As a result, staff activation costs to run 492 air quality centers for 21 days is \$68,191,200. With fringe, the total staff activation costs increase to approximately \$98,877,200.

Expense costs are largely associated with maintaining centers in the event of a poor air quality index. New York City currently operates cooling centers for heat-related emergencies.

C. Revenue

	Fiscal Year 1	Fiscal Year 2	Fiscal Year 3	Fiscal Year 4	Total
Revenue	0	0	0	0	0

Impact on Revenue:

There is no anticipated impact on revenue.

D. Capital

	Fiscal Year 1	Fiscal Year 2	Fiscal Year 3	Fiscal Year 4	Total
Expenditures	0	\$246,000,000	0	0	0

Impact on Expenditures (Capital):

The retrofitting of facilities to install HVAC systems with at least MERV 12 filtration suitable to filter particulate matter such as smoke, where needed, is estimated to cost \$1,000,000 for a 10,000 square foot building. Larger buildings will have higher costs as will installation of active carbon filtration (which would be needed if ozone filtration is required). Retrofitting half of the 492 sites with only MERV filters would require one-time capital cost of \$246,000,000.