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Title: A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to receipts printed on thermal paper.

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Int. No. 504

By Council Members Fidler, Dickens and Palma

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to receipts printed on thermal paper.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 5 of title 20 of the Administrative Code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new subchapter 16 to read as follows:

Subchapter 16

Thermal Paper

§20-810 Definitions.

§20-811 Receipts printed on thermal paper.

§20-812 Penalties.

§20-810 Definitions. For purposes of this subchapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

a. “Retail mercantile establishment” shall mean a place where goods, wares or merchandise are offered to the public for sale.

b. “Thermal paper” shall mean paper impregnated with a chemical that changes color when exposed to heat and that is used in thermal printers or other devices including, but not limited to, adding machines, cash registers, and credit card terminals.

§20-811 Receipts printed on thermal paper. Every retail mercantile establishment whose refund policy, as posted in accordance with NYS General Business Law section 218-a, requires that a customer present an original receipt as proof of purchase shall accept a copy of an original receipt as proof of purchase if such original receipt was printed on thermal paper and a customer presents such original receipt, regardless of its fade or condition, and such copy at the time the refund is requested.

§20-812 Penalties. Any retail mercantile establishment who violates this subchapter or any regulations promulgated pursuant thereunder shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than fifty dollars and not more than two hundred and fifty dollars for the first violation and a penalty of not less than five hundred dollars and not more than seven hundred fifty dollars for each subsequent violation.

§2. This local law shall take effect ninety days after its enactment.

1/31/11