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Int. No. 41

By Council Members Ariola, Louis, Brooks-Powers, Stevens, Ung, Schulman, Salaam, Morano and Paladino

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to voluntary PFAS screenings for firefighters

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 15 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 15-155 to read as follows:

§ 15-155 PFAS chemicals exposure screening. a. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. The term "perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances" means a class of fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least 1 fluorinated carbon atom.

PFAS chemicals. The term "PFAS chemicals" means any material containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

b. Exposure screenings. 1. The department, in conjunction with the department of health and mental hygiene, shall establish a program to provide voluntary screenings for firefighters to detect exposure to PFAS chemicals. Such program shall offer annual screenings for active firefighters and screenings every 2 years for retired firefighters.

2. The program shall include, at minimum:

(a) Blood tests to determine levels of exposure to PFAS chemicals;

(b) Screenings for cancers linked to PFAS chemical exposure;

(c) Kidney, liver, and thyroid function tests;

(d) Referrals to specialists as appropriate; and

(e) Education on the risks and possible harms of exposure to PFAS chemicals, to the extent those risks and harms are known.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 120 days after it becomes law.

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