

Bill History
Session Year 2026
Substitute for Raised H.B. No. 5537

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Introducer(s):

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Title: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY WAYS TO FUND A UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM.

Statement of Purpose: To impose a tax on certain sweetened beverages, syrups and powders and dedicate the revenue generated to a universal free school meals program to reimburse local and regional boards of education for the provision of free school breakfasts and lunches to all public school students.

Bill History:

03-11-2026 REFERRED TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

03-12-2026 PUBLIC HEARING 03/16

03-30-2026 JOINT FAVORABLE SUBSTITUTE

04-01-2026 FILED WITH LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

04-09-2026 REFERRED TO OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH AND OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS 04/14/26-5:00 PM

04-15-2026 REPORTED OUT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

04-15-2026 FAVORABLE REPORT, TABLED FOR THE CALENDAR, HOUSE

04-15-2026 HOUSE CALENDAR NUMBER 434

04-15-2026 FILE NUMBER 643

Co-sponsor(s):

Rep. Anne M. Hughes, 135th Dist.

Rep. Mary M. Mushinsky, 85th Dist.

Rep. Aimee Berger-Girvalo, 111th Dist. Rep. Michael "MJ" Shannon, 117th Dist.