

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

[Raised Bill](#) [\[doc\]](#) [FIN Vote Tally Sheet \(Joint Favorable Substitute\)](#)

Introducer(s):

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Title: AN ACT IMPOSING A TAX ON CERTAIN SWEETENED BEVERAGES, SYRUPS AND POWDERS AND DEDICATING THE REVENUE GENERATED TO 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

Co-sponsor(s):

Rep. Anne M. Hughes, 135th Dist.

Rep. Mary M. Mushinsky, 85th Dist.

Rep. Aimee Berger-Girvalo, 111th Dist.