



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 7258



Offered by:  
REP. CASE, 63<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6854

File No. 503

Cal. No. 316

**"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF THE FOOD ACCESS  
ADVOCATE AND TAX INCENTIVES FOR GROCERY STORES IN  
FOOD DESERTS."**

1 Strike section 4 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

2 "Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) As used in this section:

3 (1) "Food desert" means an area identified as a food desert in the Food  
4 Access Research Atlas produced by the United States Department of  
5 Agriculture's Economic Research Service; and

6 (2) "Grocery store" means a retail facility (A) where at least ninety per  
7 cent of square footage is used for the display and sale of food products,  
8 twenty per cent of which is used to display and sell fresh produce, dairy  
9 and meat products, and (B) that is constructed, remodeled or  
10 refurbished in accordance with the prevailing wage standard for the  
11 same work in the same trade or occupation in the town in which such  
12 construction, remodeling or refurbishment project is being undertaken.

13 (b) Any municipality may, by ordinance, provide for the abatement,

14 in part or in whole, of real property taxes on any new grocery store  
15 established in a food desert for the assessment years beginning on  
16 October 1, 2023, and October 1, 2024. Such ordinance shall prescribe  
17 requirements and an application process for such abatement."