ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PROTECTION

November 10, 2026 - Public Hearing

SUBJECT: Concession Pricing Fairness

PURPOSE: Examining concession pricing practices to promote transparency and fairness.

Publicly funded venues and facilities such as parks, beaches, airports, rest stops, sports centers, and stadiums are important spaces for entertainment, convenience, recreation and community engagement across New York. However, at many of these venues and facilities, food and beverage concession prices have become increasingly unaffordable for many New Yorkers and their families. These affordability concerns are amplified when patrons are prohibited from bringing in outside food and beverages, leaving them with no meaningful alternative to purchasing concessions at inflated venue prices. The Committee seeks to evaluate concession pricing at such publicly funded venues and facilities, understand the factors that drive price increases, and determine whether greater transparency, oversight, or consumer protection may be appropriate. The Committee is especially interested in learning how concession pricing practices vary and exploring solutions to make concessions more affordable to all patrons, including through the adoption of consistent standards and industry best practices. The purpose of this hearing is to develop a fuller understanding of concession pricing practices and gather input from a broad range of stakeholders to inform policy that protects consumers while also recognizing the legitimate operational and financial needs of concession operators and venue or facility owners.

Submitted Testimonies (organized by panel order):

Panel 1:
NYS Office of the Attorney General, Christopher D'Angelo, Chief Deputy Attorney General for Economic Justice

Panel 2:
Consumer Reports, Charles Bell, Program Director **(Testimony Not Received)**
Sports Fans Coalition, Brian Hess, Executive Director
Groundwork Collaborative (Virtual), Emily DiVito, Senior Advisor for Economic Policy

Submitted Testimony (Did Not Testify):
Applegreen NY Travel Plazas LLC
Delaware North
NYS Brewers Association
NYS Thruway Authority