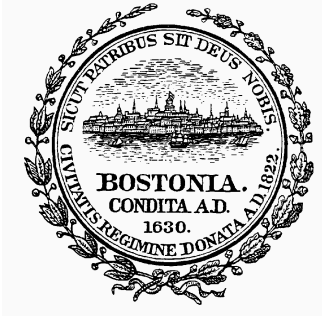


OFFERED BY COUNCILOR SHARON DURKAN



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY AND IMPACT OF A SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGE TAX IN BOSTON

**WHEREAS**, The City of Boston is committed to promoting the health and well-being of its residents, addressing disparities in health outcomes, and reducing the burden of preventable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, and heart disease; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Research has demonstrated that sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs) are a significant contributor to adverse health outcomes, including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and obesity, which disproportionately affect low-income and minority communities; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Studies from multiple U.S. cities that have implemented SSB taxes, including Philadelphia, San Francisco, Boulder, Oakland, and Seattle, have shown that they can lead to significant reductions in SSB consumption; *and*

**WHEREAS**, SSB taxes are highly cost-effective and can generate substantial public health benefits by reducing chronic diseases and lowering healthcare costs; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Evidence from cities with existing SSB taxes shows that tax revenues have been effectively used to address public health and equity concerns and fund health promotion, nutrition education, access to healthy foods, and early childhood development programs, with a significant portion of funds benefiting communities most impacted by health inequities; *and*

**WHEREAS**, The implementation of an SSB tax in Boston could generate significant revenues that could be reinvested in public health initiatives and equity-focused programs to further reduce health disparities and improve community well-being; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

**ORDERED**, That the Boston City Council, within the appropriate committee, convenes a public hearing to investigate the feasibility and impact of implementing a Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax in the City of Boston.

Filed on: 1/7/2025