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Summary of Local Law 2025/036 (Int. 1126-A-2024): Free Waste Bins for Small Residential Buildings

Purpose:

This temporary law requires the NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY) or another designated agency to provide **free official waste containers** to certain small residential properties, and to **reimburse past purchases**. It sunsets after just over a year.

Key Provisions:

1. Eligibility:

- Applies to residential buildings with **2 or fewer dwelling units**.
- The building owner must have received the STAR or Enhanced STAR property tax benefit in tax year 2024 or 2025.

2. Free Bin Distribution (Effective August 1, 2025):

- Upon request and **subject to budget availability**, DSNY must provide free **official waste containers** (lidded bins compliant with city rules).
- The number of bins per building is based on how much waste accumulates in 72 hours.

3. Reimbursement Program:

• Owners who **bought official bins prior to August 1, 2025** can apply for reimbursement **within one year** of the law's effective date.

4. Rulemaking:

- DSNY (or the administering agency) must issue rules including:
 - o How to request bins or reimbursement.
 - o Who may submit requests on behalf of a building.
 - o How many bins are needed per building and how that's calculated.

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5. Reporting Requirement:

- By October 1, 2026, the administering agency must submit a report to the Mayor and City Council detailing:
 - Number of requests for bins and reimbursements.
 - Number of bins distributed and reimbursements issued.

6. Sunset Clause:

- Section 1 (bin distribution & reimbursement) expires September 1, 2026.
- Section 2 (reporting) expires once the report is submitted.

Sponsors:

Introduced by Council Member Yusef Salaam and co-sponsored by 28 other council members, including the Public Advocate.

Legislative Status:

Enacted on March 29, 2025, as **Local Law 36 of 2025**.

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