

5491--F

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

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AN ACT to amend the general municipal law and the tax law, in relation to enacting the New York state green economic development zones act

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "New York
2 state green economic development zones act".

3 S 2. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new article 18-D
4 to read as follows:

5 ARTICLE 18-D
6 GREEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONES

7 SECTION 974. SHORT TITLE.

8 974-A. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DECLARATION.

9 974-B. DEFINITIONS.

10 974-C. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMISSIONER.

11 S 974. SHORT TITLE. THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY BE CITED AS
12 THE "NEW YORK STATE GREEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONES ACT".

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 S 974-A. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DECLARATION. IT IS HEREBY FOUND
2 AND DECLARED THAT THERE EXISTS WITHIN THE STATE THE NEED TO STIMULATE
3 EMPLOYMENT AND MORE EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION BY UTILIZING THE EMERGING
4 GREEN TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL REDUCE THE OUTPUT OF CARBON IN THE ATMOSPHERE
5 OF THE STATE, IMPROVE THE STATE'S ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF LIFE AND
6 GENERAL HEALTH OF THE RESIDENTS. THIS NEED REQUIRES THE STATE GOVERNMENT
7 TO TARGET AREAS FOR EXTRAORDINARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN ORDER
8 TO STIMULATE PRIVATE INVESTMENT, PRIVATE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND JOB
9 CREATION. IT IS THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THE STATE TO OFFER SPECIAL INCEN-
10 TIVES AND ASSISTANCE THAT WILL PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW GREEN
11 BUSINESSES AND THE EXPANSION OF EXISTING BUSINESSES WITHIN PRE-DESIGNAT-
12 ED AREAS AND TO DO SO WITHOUT ENCOURAGING THE RELOCATION OF BUSINESS
13 INVESTMENT FROM OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE. IT IS FURTHER FOUND AND
14 DECLARED THAT IT IS THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THE STATE TO ACHIEVE THESE
15 GOALS THROUGH THE MUTUAL COOPERATION OF ALL LEVELS OF STATE AND LOCAL
16 GOVERNMENT AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

17 S 974-B. DEFINITIONS. AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS
18 SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS UNLESS THE CONTEXT SHALL INDICATE
19 ANOTHER OR DIFFERENT MEANING OR INTENT:

20 (A) "APPLICANT" SHALL MEAN THE COUNTY, CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE SUBMIT-
21 TING AN APPLICATION IN THE MANNER AUTHORIZED BY LOCAL LAW FOR DESIG-
22 NATION OF AN AREA AS A GREEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE.

23 (B) "ENTERPRISE" SHALL MEAN A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE THAT IS AUTHORIZED
24 TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE AND IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED AND
25 FOUND TO COMPLY WITH GREEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE CRITERIA.

26 (C) "GREEN BUSINESS" SHALL MEAN A BUSINESS THAT PRIMARILY OPERATES IN
27 ONE OR MORE OF FOUR AREAS: PRODUCTION, SERVICE AND REPAIR, RESEARCH AND
28 DEVELOPMENT AND THE APPLICATION AND INSTALLATION OF GREEN PRODUCTS AND
29 SERVICES. A GREEN PRODUCTION COMPANY IS A COMPANY DEALING PRIMARILY WITH
30 THE MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGIES AND
31 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION TECHNOLOGIES. GREEN PRODUCTION COMPA-
32 NIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, BIO FUEL DEVELOPMENT, SOLAR PANEL
33 PRODUCTION OR ASSEMBLY, WIND TURBINE PRODUCTION OR ASSEMBLY, CARBON
34 CAPTURE AND STORAGE MECHANISM, CLEAN FUEL VEHICLES, RENEWABLE ENERGY
35 DEVELOPMENT, OR ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGIES. GREEN PRODUCTION SHALL
36 ALSO INCLUDE, BUT SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING: (1) GREEN
37 HOUSE EMISSION REDUCTION TECHNOLOGIES; (2) THE ASSEMBLY OF ESSENTIAL
38 COMPONENTS FOR A CLEAN-FUELED VEHICLE; OR (3) ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOL-
39 OGIES; WHERE

40 (A) "GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION TECHNOLOGIES" SHALL MEAN AND
41 INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO: (I) COGENERATION TECHNOLOGIES, WHICH
42 SHALL MEAN ANY ONE OF THE SEVERAL TECHNOLOGIES WHEREIN WASTE HEAT FROM
43 ON-SITE ELECTRICAL GENERATION PROCESSES IS RECOVERED TO PROVIDE STEAM OR
44 HOT WATER TO MEET ON-SITE NEEDS, SUCH AS HEATING AND/OR AIR CONDITIONING
45 AND WHICH ATTAINS OVERALL SYSTEM EFFICIENCY AS ESTABLISHED BY THE
46 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, CONSIDERING BOTH THERMAL AND
47 ELECTRICAL PROCESSES TOGETHER; (II) FURNACE AND BOILER REPLACEMENTS AND
48 RETROFITS, PROVIDED THAT THE NEW OR RETROFITTED FURNACES AND BOILERS
49 SHALL NOT AT ANY TIME OPERATE ON DIESEL FUEL WITH SULFUR CONTENT GREATER
50 THAN 0.05 PERCENT BY WEIGHT; (III) THE PRODUCTION OF CLEAN-FUELED VEHI-
51 CLES OR THE CONVERSION OF EXISTING VEHICLES TO CLEAN-FUELED VEHICLES;
52 AND (IV) OTHER MEASURES THAT WILL REDUCE THE DEMAND FOR AND/OR THE
53 CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY INCLUDING FUELS, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT
54 OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION WITH THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH
55 AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY;

1 (B) "CLEAN-FUELED VEHICLE" SHALL MEAN ANY MOTOR VEHICLE AS DEFINED IN
2 SECTION ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE OF THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC LAW, THAT
3 USES ELECTRICITY, INCLUDING ELECTRICITY EITHER STORED OR GENERATED
4 ON-BOARD, AS ITS PRIMARY MOTIVE FORCE, OR THAT IS FUELED BY NATURAL GAS,
5 PROPANE, HYDROGEN OR ANY OTHER NON-CARBON PRODUCING FUEL;

6 (C) "ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGIES" SHALL MEAN TECHNOLOGIES THAT
7 REDUCE THE CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICITY INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: (I)
8 REPLACEMENT OF INEFFICIENT LIGHTING FIXTURES; (II) APPLIANCES AND EQUIP-
9 MENT THAT MEET ENERGY EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AS IDENTIFIED IN
10 ARTICLE SIXTEEN OF THE ENERGY LAW; AND (III) OTHER SUCH MEASURES THAT
11 WILL REDUCE THE DEMAND FOR AND/OR CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICITY AS DETER-
12 MINED BY THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY;

13 (D) "RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT" SHALL MEAN THE PURCHASE AND INSTAL-
14 LATION OF TECHNOLOGIES DESIGNED TO CONVERT RENEWABLE ENERGY INTO ELEC-
15 TRICITY OR OTHER END USES, WHERE RENEWABLE ENERGY SHALL MEAN RENEWABLE
16 ENERGY RESOURCES AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION TWELVE OF SECTION 1-103 OF
17 THE ENERGY LAW;

18 (E) "GREEN SERVICE AND REPAIR" SHALL MEAN ANY COMPANY THAT DEALS
19 PRIMARILY WITH THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO OTHER COMPANIES OR INDIVID-
20 UALS IN A SUSTAINABLE OR ENERGY EFFICIENT MANNER. GREEN SERVICE AND
21 REPAIR COMPANIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, THOSE OFFERING SUCH
22 SERVICES AS GREEN ROOFING, LEED CERTIFICATION AND INSPECTION SERVICES,
23 THE GREEN BUILDING INITIATIVE'S GREEN GLOBES SYSTEM, USE AND SALE OF LOW
24 VOC PAINTS, LOW ENERGY RADIANT FLOORING, WHITE, COATED, OR GREEN ROOF
25 INSTALLATION, RECOVERY AND RECYCLING PROCESSING, REPLACEMENT OF INEFFI-
26 CIENT TECHNOLOGIES, CLEAN-FUEL VEHICLE SALES AND REPAIR, COGENERATION
27 TECHNOLOGY INSTALLATION AND REPAIR, AND GREEN LEGAL AND FINANCIAL
28 SERVICES;

29 (F) "GREEN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT" SHALL MEAN ANY ENTITY THAT WORKS
30 PRIMARILY TO DISCOVER NEW KNOWLEDGE ABOUT GREEN PRODUCTS, PROCESSES, AND
31 SERVICES, AND THEN APPLIES THAT KNOWLEDGE TO CREATE NEW AND IMPROVED
32 GREEN PRODUCTS, PROCESSES, AND SERVICES THAT FILL MARKET NEEDS. GREEN
33 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO,
34 STUDIES INVOLVING IMPROVEMENTS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, SUSTAINA-
35 BLE FARMING OR LANDSCAPING PROCESSES, WATER CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGIES,
36 ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS, ALTERNATIVE FUEL DEVELOPMENT,
37 COST-BENEFIT ANALYSES OF SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES, ENERGY RETURN ON INVEST-
38 MENT, GREEN EDUCATION OUTREACH, AND URBAN SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES; AND

39 (G) "GREEN APPLICATION AND INSTALLATION" IS THE ACT OF A PROPERTY
40 OWNER OR TENANT INSTALLING OR USING A TYPE OF GREEN TECHNOLOGY THAT
41 RESULTS IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION OR ANY OTHER ENERGY EFFI-
42 CIENCY TECHNOLOGIES AND SHALL ALSO INCLUDE CERTAIN WORK PERFORMED BY
43 NON-MANUFACTURING AND SERVICE COMPANIES AS DEFINED BY THIS SECTION.
44 GREEN APPLICATION AND INSTALLATION INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO,
45 SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION, COGENERATION TECHNOLOGY RETROFITTING, GREEN
46 ROOF INSTALLATION, LOW FLOW WATER FIXTURE INSTALLATION, CLEAN-FUEL VEHI-
47 CLE UTILIZATION, GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION TECHNOLOGY UTILIZA-
48 TION, ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGY UTILIZATION, AND LEED CERTIFICATION.

49 (D) "COMMISSIONER" SHALL MEAN THE COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOP-
50 MENT.

51 (E) "GREEN ZONE" SHALL MEAN THE AREA OF STATEN ISLAND DEFINED BY THE
52 FOLLOWING AREA BASED ON THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING
53 ZONING MAPS: BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH SIDE OF THE FOOT
54 OF THE GOETHALS BRIDGES AND THE US PIERHEAD AND BULKHEAD LINE; THENCE
55 RUNNING EASTERLY 3,214.78 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO NORTH SIDE OF THE
56 GOETHALS BRIDGE EXTENSION TO THE CENTERLINE OF WESTERN AVENUE; THENCE

1 RUNNING NORTH 93.71 FEET TO THE CENTER LINE OF GOETHALS ROAD NORTH;
 2 THENCE RUNNING EAST 5,909.12 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH SIDE
 3 OF GOETHALS ROAD NORTH TO CENTERLINE OF SOUTH AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING
 4 SOUTH 433.81 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL THE WEST SIDE OF SOUTH AVENUE TO
 5 THE CENTERLINE OF FAHEY AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING EAST 424.89 FEET ALONG
 6 AND PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH SIDE OF FAHEY AVENUE TO THE CENTERLINE OF
 7 FELTON STREET; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 1,314.02 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL THE
 8 WEST SIDE OF FELTON STREET TO THE CENTERLINE OF LAMBERTS LANE; THENCE
 9 RUNNING SOUTH 790.62 ALONG THE FELTON STREET LINE TO THE INTERSECTION OF
 10 GRAHAM AVENUE AND LANDER AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 3,413.10 FEET
 11 ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE WEST SIDE OF GRAHAM AVENUE TO THE CENTERLINE
 12 OF VICTORY BOULEVARD; THENCE RUNNING SOUTHEAST 3,114.21 ALONG THE WEST
 13 SIDE OF VICTORY BOULEVARD TO THE CENTERLINE OF TRAVIS AVENUE; THENCE
 14 RUNNING EAST 5,030.20 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL THE SOUTH SIDE OF TRAVIS
 15 AVENUE TO THE CENTERLINE OF RICHMOND AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH
 16 12,265.02 ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE WEST SIDE OF RICHMOND AVENUE TO THE
 17 CENTERLINE OF ARTHUR KILL ROAD; THENCE RUNNING WEST 23,752.19 FEET ALONG
 18 AND PARALLEL THE NORTH SIDE OF ARTHUR KILL ROAD TO THE CENTERLINE OF
 19 ELLIS ROAD; THENCE RUNNING NORTH 3,571 FEET ALONG THE LINE OF ELLIS ROAD
 20 TO THE POINT OF THE US PIERHEAD AND BULKHEAD LINE; THENCE RUNNING NORTH
 21 47,725.83 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE EAST SIDE OF THE US PIERHEAD
 22 AND BULKHEAD LINE TO THE POINT AND PLACE OF THE BEGINNING.

23 S 974-C. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMISSIONER. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL:

24 (A) PROMULGATE REGULATIONS, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF
 25 LABOR, FOR PROGRAM EVALUATION AND COORDINATE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EVALU-
 26 ATION SYSTEM, WHICH IS CAPABLE OF COMPILING AND ANALYZING ACCURATE AND
 27 CONSISTENT INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR AN ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER STATUTORY
 28 OBJECTIVES AND CRITERIA ARE BEING MET;

29 (B) DESIGNATE BUSINESSES AS MEETING THE CRITERIA OF A GREEN BUSINESS;
 30 AND

31 (C) REVIEW PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES AND PROGRESS IN MEETING OBJECTIVES.

32 S 3. Section 210 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subdivision
 33 45 to read as follows:

34 45. GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION CREDIT. (A) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT. A
 35 TAXPAYER SHALL BE ALLOWED A CREDIT AGAINST THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS CHAP-
 36 TER. SUCH CREDIT, TO BE COMPUTED AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, SHALL BE
 37 ALLOWED FOR A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE, OR A SOLE
 38 PROPRIETOR OF A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE OR A MEMBER
 39 OF A PARTNERSHIP WHICH IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN
 40 ZONE.

41 (B) AMOUNT OF CREDIT. THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT FOR TAXABLE YEARS
 42 BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN, SHALL BE
 43 COMPUTED AT THIRTY PERCENT FOR EACH DOLLAR OF THE TOTAL BUSINESS AND
 44 INVESTMENT CAPITAL, OR THE PORTION THEREOF ALLOCATED WITHIN THE GREEN
 45 ZONE, AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR-B OF
 46 THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW. THIS CREDIT MAY ONLY BE TAKEN BY THE TAXPAYER
 47 IN ONE TAX YEAR AND ONCE USED MAY NOT BE USED AGAIN.

48 S 4. Subparagraph (B) of paragraph 1 of subsection (i) of section 606
 49 of the tax law is amended by adding a new clause (xxxiv) to read as
 50 follows:

51 (XXXIV) GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION	AMOUNT OF CREDIT UNDER
52 CREDIT UNDER SUBSECTION	SUBDIVISION FORTY-FIVE OF
53 (UU)	SECTION TWO HUNDRED TEN

54 S 5. Section 606 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subsection
 55 (uu) to read as follows:

(UU) GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION CREDIT. (1) A TAXPAYER SHALL BE ALLOWED A CREDIT, TO BE COMPUTED AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, AGAINST THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS ARTICLE, WHERE THE TAXPAYER IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE, OR A SOLE PROPRIETOR OF A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE OR A MEMBER OF A PARTNERSHIP WHICH IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE.

(2) AMOUNT OF CREDIT. THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT FOR TAXABLE YEARS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN, SHALL BE COMPUTED AT THIRTY PERCENT FOR EACH DOLLAR OF THE TOTAL BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT CAPITAL, OR THE PORTION THEREOF ALLOCATED WITHIN THE GREEN ZONE, AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR-B OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW. THIS CREDIT MAY ONLY BE TAKEN BY THE TAXPAYER IN ONE TAX YEAR AND ONCE USED MAY NOT BE USED AGAIN.

S 6. Section 1456 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subsection (z) to read as follows:

(Z) GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION CREDIT. (1) A TAXPAYER SHALL BE ALLOWED A CREDIT, TO BE COMPUTED AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, AGAINST THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS ARTICLE, WHERE THE TAXPAYER IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE, OR A SOLE PROPRIETOR OF A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE OR A MEMBER OF A PARTNERSHIP WHICH IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE.

(2) AMOUNT OF CREDIT. THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT FOR TAXABLE YEARS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN, SHALL BE COMPUTED AT THIRTY PERCENT FOR EACH DOLLAR OF THE TOTAL BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT CAPITAL, OR THE PORTION THEREOF ALLOCATED WITHIN THE GREEN ZONE, AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR-B OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW. THIS CREDIT MAY ONLY BE TAKEN BY THE TAXPAYER IN ONE TAX YEAR AND ONCE USED MAY NOT BE USED AGAIN.

S 7. Section 1511 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subdivision (cc) to read as follows:

(CC) GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION CREDIT. (1) A TAXPAYER SHALL BE ALLOWED A CREDIT, TO BE COMPUTED AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, AGAINST THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS ARTICLE, WHERE THE TAXPAYER IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE, OR A SOLE PROPRIETOR OF A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE OR A MEMBER OF A PARTNERSHIP WHICH IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE.

(2) AMOUNT OF CREDIT. THE AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT FOR TAXABLE YEARS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN, SHALL BE COMPUTED AT THIRTY PERCENT FOR EACH DOLLAR OF THE TOTAL BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT CAPITAL, OR THE PORTION THEREOF ALLOCATED WITHIN THE GREEN ZONE, AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED IN SECTION NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR-B OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW. THIS CREDIT MAY ONLY BE TAKEN BY THE TAXPAYER IN ONE TAX YEAR AND ONCE USED MAY NOT BE USED AGAIN.

S 8. This act shall take effect immediately.