

4483--A

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

April 6, 2011

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Introduced by Sen. ALESI -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions -- recommitted to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the New York state urban development corporation act, in relation to creating the seed-NY investment fund

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

1     Section 1. Section 1 of chapter 174 of the laws of 1968 constituting  
2     the New York state urban development corporation act, is amended by  
3     adding a new section 46 to read as follows:  
4     S 46. THE SEED-NY INVESTMENT FUND. 1. DEFINITIONS. FOR THE PURPOSES  
5     OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND TERMS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING  
6     MEANINGS UNLESS THE CONTEXT SHALL INDICATE ANOTHER OR DIFFERENT MEANING  
7     OR INTENT:  
8     (A) "REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND" SHALL MEAN A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP,  
9     LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP, A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY OR A  
10    NOT-FOR-PROFIT FUND UNDER EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT THAT IS  
11    FAMILIAR WITH SEED CAPITAL INVESTMENT, APPROPRIATE BUSINESS PRACTICES  
12    AND TECHNOLOGY-ORIENTED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, AND FORMED FOR THE  
13    PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PRIVATE EQUITY TO TECHNOLOGY-BASED COMPANIES IN  
14    THEIR FORMATIVE STAGES, ENCOMPASSES AT LEAST TWO COUNTIES, AND INVESTS  
15    IN QUALIFIED ENTERPRISES LOCATED WITHIN NEW YORK STATE.  
16    (B) "QUALIFIED ENTERPRISE" SHALL MEAN:  
17    (I) A COMPANY OR A PROPOSED COMPANY THAT HAS OR WILL LOCATE ITS PRIN-  
18    CIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN NEW YORK STATE, AND THAT IS, OR PROPOSES TO  
19    BE, ENGAGED IN THIS STATE IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OR HIGH TECHNOLOGY  
20    MANUFACTURING, AND THAT DEMONSTRATES THE POTENTIAL FOR SUBSTANTIAL  
21    GROWTH AND JOB DEVELOPMENT IN AN EMERGING TECHNOLOGY FIELD AS DEFINED IN

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

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SECTION THIRTY-ONE HUNDRED TWO-E OF THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES LAW OR AS ADOPTED BY THE CORPORATION; AND

(II) IS FORMULATING, HAS FORMULATED, OR IS EXECUTING A DETAILED BUSINESS PLAN FOR PROOF-OF-CONCEPT OR INITIAL PRODUCT COMMERCIALIZATION.

(C) "SEED CAPITAL" SHALL MEAN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO A QUALIFIED ENTERPRISE, IN RETURN FOR EQUITY OR DEBT SECURITIES OR ROYALTIES.

2. INVESTMENTS IN REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUNDS. (A) THE CORPORATION SHALL MAKE INVESTMENTS TO ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE THE CREATION OR EXPANSION OF REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUNDS THAT SERVE THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. THE CORPORATION SHALL ADOPT CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES GOVERNING SUCH INVESTMENTS, WHICH SHALL:

(I) DEMONSTRATE THE NEED FOR SEED CAPITAL IN THE REGION SERVED OR TO BE SERVED BY A REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND;

(II) DEMONSTRATE THAT SUPPORT FOR A REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND EXISTS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES, AND BUSINESS COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE REGION OR AREA TO BE SERVICED BY SUCH FUND;

(III) REQUIRE THAT THE REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND HAS THE CAPACITY TO PERFORM DUE DILIGENCE IN MAKING INVESTMENT DECISIONS, AND TO PROVIDE MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE AND OTHER VALUE-ADDED SERVICES TO ITS PORTFOLIO COMPANIES WHICH SERVICES MAY INCLUDE ACCESS TO CAPITAL, BUSINESS EXPERTISE, TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION SERVICES AND A NETWORK OF RESOURCES IN ORDER TO ADVANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES;

(IV) REQUIRE THAT THE REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND ESTABLISHES CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST PROVISIONS ACCEPTABLE TO THE CORPORATION;

(V) TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT FEASIBLE, REQUIRE THE REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND WILL INVEST IN FIRMS WHICH HAVE THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR JOB CREATION;

(VI) REQUIRE THAT INVESTMENTS MADE BY THE FOUNDATION IN A REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND SHALL NOT EXCEED FIVE MILLION DOLLARS AND, SHALL BE MATCHED BY THE REGIONAL FUND ON AT LEAST A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS WITH MONIES, OTHER THAN STATE MONIES, UNLESS THE CORPORATION FINDS THAT A REDUCED MATCHING REQUIREMENT WILL FURTHER THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION; AND

(VII) REQUIRE THAT INVESTMENTS MADE BY A REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND THAT INCLUDE FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE CORPORATION SHALL BE MADE ONLY FOR THE FINANCING AUTHORIZED BY SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION.

(B) (I) THE CORPORATION SHALL MAKE INVESTMENTS IN QUALIFIED REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUNDS VIA THE ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO REGIONAL AND LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS, TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS, RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES, AND INVESTMENT FUNDS THAT PROVIDE SMALL-SCALE INVESTMENTS IN HIGH-TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES IN NEW YORK STATE.

(II) WHEN AWARDING FUNDS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION, THE CORPORATION SHALL ASSURE ADEQUATE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE.

3. REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUNDS. (A) REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUNDS RECEIVING INVESTMENTS FROM THE CORPORATION UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL USE SUCH FUNDS AND THE REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS TO PROVIDE SEED CAPITAL AND FOLLOW-ON FINANCING TO QUALIFIED ENTERPRISES, PROVIDED THAT THE REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND SHALL NOT:

(I) INVEST AN AMOUNT IN ANY SINGLE QUALIFIED ENTERPRISE THAT EXCEEDS FIFTY PERCENT OF THE TOTAL INVESTMENT FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES IN ANY SUCH ENTERPRISE; OR

(II) INVEST OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN ANY INDIVIDUAL COMPANY, OR SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IN THE CASE OF ANY INDIVIDUAL BIOTECHNOLOGY COMPANY, AT ANY ONE TIME.

(B) A REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND, BEFORE APPROVING ANY APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SECTION, SHALL FIND THAT:

1 (I) THE QUALIFIED ENTERPRISE AND ITS PRODUCT OR PROCESS HAVE A REASON-  
2 ABLE CHANCE OF BEING COMMERCIALY SUCCESSFUL;

3 (II) THE EMPLOYMENT CREATED OR MAINTAINED AS A RESULT OF THE FUND'S  
4 INVESTMENT WILL BE IN NEW YORK STATE; AND

5 (III) PROVISIONS ARE IN PLACE FOR THE REPAYMENT OF THE FUNDS IF THE  
6 COMPANY RECEIVING ASSISTANCE LEAVES THE STATE.

7 4. REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND REPORTING. THE CORPORATION SHALL REQUIRE  
8 ANY REGIONAL INVESTMENT FUND RECEIVING INVESTMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION TO  
9 FILE A REPORT WITH THE CORPORATION BY DECEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIR-  
10 TEEN AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER. SUCH REPORT SHALL INCLUDE:

11 (A) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDS COMMITTED TO THE REGIONAL INVESTMENT  
12 FUND AND THE AMOUNT THAT HAS BEEN INVESTED;

13 (B) THE NET ASSET VALUE OF THE FUND;

14 (C) THE AMOUNT INVESTED IN EACH PORTFOLIO COMPANY FROM THE FUND AND  
15 FROM OTHER SOURCES;

16 (D) THE TYPE OF PRODUCT OR TECHNOLOGY BEING DEVELOPED BY EACH PORTFO-  
17 LIO COMPANY;

18 (E) THE LOCATION OF EACH PORTFOLIO COMPANY;

19 (F) THE NUMBER OF JOBS PROJECTED TO BE CREATED AND RETAINED; AND

20 (G) SUCH OTHER INFORMATION AS THE CORPORATION DEEMS NECESSARY.

21 5. REPORT OF THE CORPORATION. THE CORPORATION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE  
22 GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE A SUMMARY AND EVALUATION OF THE REPORTS  
23 SUBMITTED TO THE CORPORATION PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION FOUR OF THIS  
24 SECTION AND AN EVALUATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THE REGIONAL INVESTMENT  
25 FUNDS ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN AND ANNUALLY  
26 THEREAFTER.

27 6. SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT FUND ASSETS AND LIABILITIES. (A) ALL OF  
28 THE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT  
29 FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY VARIOUS CHAPTERS OF  
30 THE LAW INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF  
31 NINETEEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINETEEN  
32 HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINETEEN HUNDRED  
33 EIGHTY-SIX, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINETEEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-  
34 SEVEN, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINETEEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHT,  
35 CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINETEEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE, CHAPTER  
36 FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE  
37 OF THE LAWS OF NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY-ONE, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE  
38 LAWS OF NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY-TWO, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF  
39 NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY-THREE, CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINE-  
40 TEEN HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR, AND CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE OF THE LAWS OF NINE-  
41 TEEN HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE, SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE SEED-NY  
42 INVESTMENT FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

43 (B) THE CORPORATION SHALL PREPARE A PLAN, WITHIN NINETY DAYS FOLLOWING  
44 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, TO LIQUIDATE ALL CURRENT ASSETS AND  
45 LIABILITIES OF THE SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT FUND.

46 (C) THE PUBLICLY-TRADED ASSETS AND ANY WORKING CAPITAL SHALL BE MADE  
47 FULLY AVAILABLE TO THE SEED-NY INVESTMENT FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO  
48 THIS SECTION.

49 (D) THE CORPORATION SHALL ALSO TAKE WHATEVER ACTIONS ARE NECESSARY TO  
50 LIQUIDATE THE REMAINING ASSETS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY INVEST-  
51 MENT FUND AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO YEARS FOLLOWING  
52 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

53 S 2. The governor, on or before June 27, 2012 and as part of the  
54 state's application that will be submitted to the United States treasury  
55 department to receive funding from the Federal Small Business Jobs Act  
56 of 2010 (P.L. 11-240), shall allocate not less than \$25,000,000 of New

1 York's portion of such federal moneys to the seed-NY investment fund for  
2 the purpose of providing assistance to established regional investment  
3 funds. Upon receipt of the federal moneys, the governor and the legisla-  
4 ture shall immediately appropriate the amount allocated to the seed-NY  
5 investment fund in the state's application to the New York state urban  
6 development corporation for the purpose of carrying out the provisions  
7 of section 46 of the New York state urban development corporation act as  
8 added by section one of this act.

9 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.