

2471

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

January 17, 2013

Introduced by Sen. LANZA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when
printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

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 ASSEM-
BLY, 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".

13 S 974-A. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DECLARATION. IT IS HEREBY FOUND
14 AND DECLARED THAT THERE EXISTS WITHIN THE STATE THE NEED TO STIMULATE
15 EMPLOYMENT AND MORE EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION BY UTILIZING THE EMERGING
16 GREEN TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL REDUCE THE OUTPUT OF CARBON IN THE ATMOSPHERE
17 OF THE STATE, IMPROVE THE STATE'S ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF LIFE AND
18 GENERAL HEALTH OF THE RESIDENTS. THIS NEED REQUIRES THE STATE GOVERNMENT
19 TO TARGET AREAS FOR EXTRAORDINARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN ORDER
20 TO STIMULATE PRIVATE INVESTMENT, PRIVATE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND JOB
21 CREATION. IT IS THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THE STATE TO OFFER SPECIAL INCEN-
22 TIVES AND ASSISTANCE THAT WILL PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW GREEN
23 BUSINESSES AND THE EXPANSION OF EXISTING BUSINESSES WITHIN PRE-DESIGNAT-
24 ED AREAS AND TO DO SO WITHOUT ENCOURAGING THE RELOCATION OF BUSINESS

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

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1 INVESTMENT FROM OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE. IT IS FURTHER FOUND AND
2 DECLARED THAT IT IS THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THE STATE TO ACHIEVE THESE
3 GOALS THROUGH THE MUTUAL COOPERATION OF ALL LEVELS OF STATE AND LOCAL
4 GOVERNMENT AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

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

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

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

14 (C) "GREEN BUSINESS" SHALL MEAN A BUSINESS THAT PRIMARILY OPERATES IN
15 ONE OR MORE OF FOUR AREAS: PRODUCTION, SERVICE AND REPAIR, RESEARCH AND
16 DEVELOPMENT AND THE APPLICATION AND INSTALLATION OF GREEN PRODUCTS AND
17 SERVICES. A GREEN PRODUCTION COMPANY IS A COMPANY DEALING PRIMARILY WITH
18 THE MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGIES AND
19 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION TECHNOLOGIES. GREEN PRODUCTION COMPA-
20 NIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, BIO FUEL DEVELOPMENT, SOLAR PANEL
21 PRODUCTION OR ASSEMBLY, WIND TURBINE PRODUCTION OR ASSEMBLY, CARBON
22 CAPTURE AND STORAGE MECHANISM, CLEAN FUEL VEHICLES, RENEWABLE ENERGY
23 DEVELOPMENT, OR ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGIES. GREEN PRODUCTION SHALL
24 ALSO INCLUDE, BUT SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING: (1) GREEN
25 HOUSE EMISSION REDUCTION TECHNOLOGIES; (2) THE ASSEMBLY OF ESSENTIAL
26 COMPONENTS FOR A CLEAN-FUELED VEHICLE; OR (3) ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNOL-
27 OGIES; WHERE

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

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

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

(D) "RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT" SHALL MEAN THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF TECHNOLOGIES DESIGNED TO CONVERT RENEWABLE ENERGY INTO ELECTRICITY OR OTHER END USES, WHERE RENEWABLE ENERGY SHALL MEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION TWELVE OF SECTION 1-103 OF THE ENERGY LAW;

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

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

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

(D) "COMMISSIONER" SHALL MEAN THE COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

(E) "GREEN ZONE" SHALL MEAN THE AREA OF STATEN ISLAND DEFINED BY THE FOLLOWING AREA BASED ON THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING ZONING MAPS: BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH SIDE OF THE FOOT OF THE GOETHALS BRIDGES AND THE US PIERHEAD AND BULKHEAD LINE; THENCE RUNNING EASTERLY 3,214.78 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO NORTH SIDE OF THE GOETHALS BRIDGE EXTENSION TO THE CENTERLINE OF WESTERN AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING NORTH 93.71 FEET TO THE CENTER LINE OF GOETHALS ROAD NORTH; THENCE RUNNING EAST 5,909.12 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH SIDE OF GOETHALS ROAD NORTH TO CENTERLINE OF SOUTH AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 433.81 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL THE WEST SIDE OF SOUTH AVENUE TO THE CENTERLINE OF FAHEY AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING EAST 424.89 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH SIDE OF FAHEY AVENUE TO THE CENTERLINE OF FELTON STREET; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 1,314.02 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL THE WEST SIDE OF FELTON STREET TO THE CENTERLINE OF LAMBERTS LANE; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 790.62 ALONG THE FELTON STREET LINE TO THE INTERSECTION OF GRAHAM AVENUE AND LANDER AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 3,413.10 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE WEST SIDE OF GRAHAM AVENUE TO THE CENTERLINE OF VICTORY BOULEVARD; THENCE RUNNING SOUTHEAST 3,114.21 ALONG THE WEST

1 SIDE OF VICTORY BOULEVARD TO THE CENTERLINE OF TRAVIS AVENUE; THENCE
2 RUNNING EAST 5,030.20 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL THE SOUTH SIDE OF TRAVIS
3 AVENUE TO THE CENTERLINE OF RICHMOND AVENUE; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH
4 12,265.02 ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE WEST SIDE OF RICHMOND AVENUE TO THE
5 CENTERLINE OF ARTHUR KILL ROAD; THENCE RUNNING WEST 23,752.19 FEET ALONG
6 AND PARALLEL THE NORTH SIDE OF ARTHUR KILL ROAD TO THE CENTERLINE OF
7 ELLIS ROAD; THENCE RUNNING NORTH 3,571 FEET ALONG THE LINE OF ELLIS ROAD
8 TO THE POINT OF THE US PIERHEAD AND BULKHEAD LINE; THENCE RUNNING NORTH
9 47,725.83 FEET ALONG AND PARALLEL TO THE EAST SIDE OF THE US PIERHEAD
10 AND BULKHEAD LINE TO THE POINT AND PLACE OF THE BEGINNING.

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

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

17 (B) DESIGNATE BUSINESSES AS MEETING THE CRITERIA OF A GREEN BUSINESS;
18 AND

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

20 S 3. Section 210 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subdivision
21 46 to read as follows:

22 46. GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION CREDIT. (A) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT. A
23 TAXPAYER SHALL BE ALLOWED A CREDIT AGAINST THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS CHAP-
24 TER. SUCH CREDIT, TO BE COMPUTED AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, SHALL BE
25 ALLOWED FOR A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE, OR A SOLE
26 PROPRIETOR OF A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE OR A MEMBER
27 OF A PARTNERSHIP WHICH IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN
28 ZONE.

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

36 S 4. Subparagraph (B) of paragraph 1 of subsection (i) of section 606
37 of the tax law is amended by adding a new clause (xxxv) to read as
38 follows:

39 (XXXV) GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION	AMOUNT OF CREDIT UNDER
40 CREDIT UNDER SUBSECTION	SUBDIVISION FORTY-SIX OF
41 (VV)	SECTION TWO HUNDRED TEN

42 S 5. Section 606 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subsection
43 (vv) to read as follows:

44 (VV) GREEN ZONE TAX REDUCTION CREDIT. (1) A TAXPAYER SHALL BE ALLOWED
45 A CREDIT, TO BE COMPUTED AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, AGAINST THE TAX
46 IMPOSED BY THIS ARTICLE, WHERE THE TAXPAYER IS A QUALIFIED GREEN BUSI-
47 NESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE, OR A SOLE PROPRIETOR OF A QUALIFIED GREEN
48 BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE OR A MEMBER OF A PARTNERSHIP WHICH IS A
49 QUALIFIED GREEN BUSINESS WITHIN A GREEN ZONE.

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

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

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

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

16 S 7. Section 1511 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subdivi-
17 sion (cc) to read as follows:

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

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

31 S 8. This act shall take effect immediately.