IN ASSEMBLY

April 5, 2016

Introduced by M. of A. BICHOTTE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the state finance law and the general municipal law, in relation to payment by public owners to contractors and subcontractors

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

Section 1. The opening paragraph and subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 139-f of the state finance law, the opening paragraph and subdivision 1 as added by chapter 769 of the laws of 1978, and subdivision 2 as amended by section 16 of part MM of chapter 57 of the laws of 2008, are amended to read as follows:

Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, except the provisions of section thirty-eight of the highway law, all contracts made and awarded by the state, or by any public department, or by any public benefit corporation or by any public corporation or official thereof, hereafter referred to as the public owner, for construction, reconstruction or alteration of any public work project shall provide for payment by the public owner to the contractor and [payment by the contractor] to the subcontractor OR SUBCONTRACTORS in accordance with the following:

1. Payment by public owners to contractors. The contractor shall periodically, in accordance with the terms of the contract, submit to the public owner and/or his agent a requisition for a progress payment for the work performed and/or materials furnished to the date of the requisition BY THE CONTRACTOR AND ALL SUBCONTRACTORS, less any amount previously paid to the contractor OR SUBCONTRACTORS. The public owner shall in accordance with the terms of the contract approve and promptly pay the requisition for the progress payment less an amount necessary to satisfy any claims, liens or judgments against the contractor OR SUBCONTRACTORS which have not been suitably discharged and less any retained amount as hereafter described. The public owner shall retain not more than five per centum of each progress payment to the contractor AND SUBCONTRACTORS except that the public owner may retain in excess of five per centum but not more than ten per centum of each progress payment to

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

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the contractor provided that there are no requirements by the public owner for the contractor to provide a performance bond and a labor and 3 material bond both in the full amount of the contract. The public owner shall pay, upon requisition from the contractor, for materials pertinent 5 to the project which have been delivered to the site or off-site by the 6 contractor [and/or subcontractor] and suitably stored and secured as 7 required by the public owner and the contractor provided, the public owner may limit such payment to materials in short and/or critical supply and materials specially fabricated for the project each as $\frac{1}{2}$ 8 9 defined in the contract. When the work or major portions thereof 10 11 contemplated by the terms of the contract are substantially completed, the contractor shall submit to the public owner and/or his agent a requisition for payment of the remaining amount of the contract balance, 12 13 14 INCLUDING BALANCES OWED TO SUBCONTRACTORS. Upon receipt of such requi-15 sition the public owner shall approve and promptly pay the remaining 16 amount of the contract balance less two times the value of any remaining 17 items to be completed and an amount necessary to satisfy any claims, 18 liens or judgments against the contractor which have not been suitably discharged. As the remaining items of work are satisfactorily completed 19 20 or corrected, the public owner shall promptly pay, upon receipt of a 21 requisition, for these remaining items less an amount necessary to 22 satisfy any claims, liens or judgments against the contractor which have not been suitably discharged. Any claims, liens and judgments referred 23 24 in this section shall pertain to the project and shall be filed in 25 accordance with the terms of the applicable contract and/or applicable 26 27

Payment by [contractors] PUBLIC OWNERS to subcontractors. [Within seven calendar days of the receipt] (A) EACH SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL PERIOD-ICALLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT, SUBMIT PUBLIC OWNER AND/OR HIS AGENT AND TO THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR HIS AGENT A REQUISITION FOR A PROGRESS PAYMENT FOR THE WORK PERFORMED AND/OR MATERI-ALS FURNISHED TO THE DATE OF THE REQUISITION, LESS ANY AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY PAID TO THE CONTRACTOR. AT THE TIME of any payment [from] BY the public owner[,] TO the contractor AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, THE PUBLIC OWNER shall pay each of [his] THE subcontractors and materialmen the proceeds from the payment representing the value of the work performed and/or materials furnished by the subcontractor and/or materialman and reflecting the percentage of the subcontractor's work completed or the materialman's material supplied in the requisition approved by the owner and based upon the actual value of the subcontract or purchase order less an amount necessary to satisfy any claims, liens judgments against the subcontractor or materialman which have not been suitably discharged and less any retained amount as hereafter described. [Failure by the contractor to pay any subcontractor or materialman within seven calendar days of the receipt of any payment from the public owner shall result in the commencement and accrual of interest on amounts due to such subcontractor or materialman for the period beginning on the day immediately following the expiration of such seven calendar day period and ending on the date on which payment is made by the contractor to such subcontractor or materialman. Such payment shall be the sole responsibility of the contractor, and shall be paid at the rate of interest in effect on the date payment is made by the contractor. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, interest shall be computed at the rate established in paragraph (b) of subdivision one of section seven hundred fifty-six-b of the general business law. The contractor shall retain not more than five per

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centum of each payment to the subcontractor and/or materialman except that the contractor may retain in excess of five per centum but not more than ten per centum of each payment to the subcontractor provided that prior to entering into a subcontract with the contractor, the subcon-5 tractor is unable or unwilling to provide a performance bond and a labor and material bond, both in the full amount of the subcontract, at 7 request of the contractor. However, the contractor shall retain nothing from those payments representing proceeds owed the subcontractor and/or 9 materialman from the public owner's payments to the contractor for the 10 remaining amounts of the contract balance as provided in subdivision one 11 of this section. If the contractor has failed to submit a requisition 12 for payment of the remaining amounts of the contract balance within 13 ninety days of substantial completion as provided in subdivision one of 14 this section, then any clause in the subcontract between the contractor 15 and the subcontractor or materialman which states that payment by the contractor to such subcontractor or materialman is contingent upon 16 17 payment by the owner to the contractor shall be deemed invalid. 18 seven calendar days of the receipt of payment from the contractor, the subcontractor and/or materialman shall pay each of his subcontractors 19 and materialmen in the same manner as the contractor has paid the 20 21 subcontractor, including interest as herein provided above. Nothing provided herein shall create any obligation on the part of the public 23 owner to pay or to see to the payment of any moneys to any subcontractor 24 or materialman from any contractor nor shall anything provided herein 25 serve to create any relationship in contract or otherwise, implied or 26 expressed, between the subcontractor or materialman and the public THE PUBLIC OWNER SHALL RETAIN NOT MORE THAN FIVE PER CENTUM OF 27 EACH PROGRESS PAYMENT TO THE SUBCONTRACTOR EXCEPT THAT THE PUBLIC 28 29 MAY RETAIN IN EXCESS OF FIVE PER CENTUM BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN PER CENTUM OF EACH PROGRESS PAYMENT TO THE SUBCONTRACTOR PROVIDED THAT THERE ARE NO 30 THE PUBLIC OWNER FOR THE SUBCONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE A 31 REOUIREMENTS BY 32 PERFORMANCE BOND AND A LABOR AND MATERIAL BOND BOTH IN THE FULL 33 THE CONTRACT. THE PUBLIC OWNER SHALL PAY, UPON REQUISITION FROM THE CONTRACTOR AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, FOR MATERIALS 34 PERTINENT TO THE PROJECT WHICH HAVE BEEN DELIVERED 35 TO THE SITE SUITABLY STORED SUBCONTRACTOR AND 36 OFF-SITE BY THEAND SECURED AS 37 REQUIRED BY THE PUBLIC OWNER AND THE SUBCONTRACTOR PROVIDED, THE 38 LIMIT SUCH PAYMENT TO MATERIALS IN SHORT AND/OR CRITICAL OWNER MAY 39 SUPPLY AND MATERIALS SPECIALLY FABRICATED FOR THEPROJECT EACH AS 40 WHEN THE WORK OR MAJOR PORTIONS THEREOF AS INTHE CONTRACT. CONTEMPLATED BY THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT ARE SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED, 41 THE SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT TO THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR HIS OR HER AGENT 42 43 REQUISITION FOR PAYMENT OF THE REMAINING AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT 44 BALANCE. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT A CONTRACT REQUISITION CONTAINING 45 ALL REOUISITIONS FROM SUBCONTRACTORS TO THE PUBLIC OWNER. UPON RECEIPT OF SUCH REQUISITION THE PUBLIC OWNER SHALL APPROVE AND PROMPTLY PAY 46 47 REMAINING AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT BALANCE LESS TWO TIMES THE VALUE OF ANY 48 REMAINING ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED AND AN AMOUNT NECESSARY TO SATISFY ANY 49 CLAIMS, LIENS OR JUDGMENTS AGAINST THE SUBCONTRACTOR WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN 50 SUITABLY DISCHARGED. AS THE REMAINING ITEMS OF WORK ARE SATISFACTORILY 51 COMPLETED OR CORRECTED, THE PUBLIC OWNER SHALL PROMPTLY PAY, UPON RECEIPT OF A REQUISITION, FOR THESE REMAINING 52 ITEMS LESS AN AMOUNT NECESSARY TO SATISFY ANY CLAIMS, LIENS OR JUDGMENTS AGAINST THE SUBCON-53 TRACTOR WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SUITABLY DISCHARGED. ANY CLAIMS, 54 LIENS 55 JUDGMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION SHALL PERTAIN TO THE PROJECT AND

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SHALL BE FILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE CONTRACT AND/OR APPLICABLE LAWS.

- (B) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "SUBCONTRACTOR" MEANS ONLY THOSE SUBCONTRACTORS THAT REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE MAIN CONTRACTOR WITH WHOM THE PUBLIC OWNER HAS ENTERED INTO THE CONTRACT, AND DOES NOT INCLUDE SUBCONTRACTORS OF SUBCONTRACTORS.
- S 2. The opening paragraph and subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 106-b of the general municipal law, the opening paragraph and subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 661 of the laws of 1992, paragraphs (a) and (c) of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 98 of the laws of 1995, and subdivision 2 as amended by section 15 of part MM of chapter 57 of the laws of 2008, are amended to read as follows:

Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, all contracts made and awarded by the appropriate officer, board or agency of a political subdivision or of any district therein, hereafter referred to as the public owner, for construction, reconstruction or alteration of any public work project shall provide for payment by the public owner to the contractor and [payment by the contractor] to the subcontractor OR SUBCONTRACTORS in accordance with the following:

1. Payment by public owners to contractors. (a) The contractor shall periodically, in accordance with the terms of the contract, submit to the public owner and/or his agent a requisition for a progress payment for the work performed and/or materials furnished to the date of the requisition BY THE CONTRACTOR AND ALL SUBCONTRACTORS less any amount previously paid to the contractor OR SUBCONTRACTORS. The public owner shall in accordance with the terms of the contract approve and promptly pay the requisition for the progress payment less an amount necessary to satisfy any claims, liens or judgments against the contractor OR SUBCON-TRACTORS which have not been suitably discharged and less any retained amount as hereafter described. The public owner shall retain not more than five per centum of each progress payment to the contractor OR SUBCONTRACTORS except that the public owner may retain in excess of five per centum but not more than ten per centum of each progress payment to the contractor provided that there are no requirements by the public owner for the contractor to provide a performance bond and a labor and material bond both in the full amount of the contract. The public owner shall pay, upon requisition from the contractor, for materials pertinent to the project which have been delivered to the site or off-site by the contractor [and/or subcontractor] and suitably stored and secured as required by the public owner and the contractor provided, the public owner may limit such payment to materials in short and/or critical supply and materials specially fabricated for the project each as defined in the contract. When the work or major portions thereof as contemplated by the terms of the contract are substantially completed, contractor shall submit to the public owner and/or his agent a requisition for payment of the remaining amount of the contract balance INCLUDING BALANCES OWED TO SUBCONTRACTORS. Upon receipt of such requisition the public owner shall approve and promptly pay the remaining amount of the contract balance less two times the value of any remaining items to be completed and an amount necessary to satisfy any claims, liens or judgments against the contractor which have not been suitably discharged. As the remaining items of work are satisfactorily completed or corrected, the public owner shall promptly pay, upon receipt of a requisition, for these items less an amount necessary to satisfy any claims, liens or judgments against the contractor which have not been suitably discharged. Any claims, liens and judgments referred to in this

section shall pertain to the project and shall be filed in accordance with the terms of the applicable contract and/or applicable laws. Where the public owner is other than the city of New York, the term "promptly pay" shall mean payment within thirty days, excluding legal holidays, of receipt of the requisition unless such requisition is not approvable in accordance with the terms of the contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where the public owner is other than the city of New York and is a municipal corporation which requires an elected official to approve progress payments, "promptly pay" shall mean payment within forty-five days, excluding legal holidays, of receipt of the requisition unless such requisition is not approvable in accordance with the terms of the contract.

- (b) Each public owner other than the city of New York which is required to make a payment from public funds pursuant to a contract and which does not make such contract payment by the required payment date shall make an interest payment to the contractor on the amount of the contract payment which is due unless failure to make such contract payment is the result of a lien, attachment, or other legal process against the money due said contractor, or unless the amount of the interest payment as computed in accordance with the provisions set forth hereinafter is less than ten dollars. Interest payments on amounts due to a contractor pursuant to this paragraph shall be paid to the contractor for the period beginning on the day after the required payment date and ending on the payment date for those payments required according to this section and shall be paid at the rate of interest in effect on date when the interest payment is made. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, interest shall be computed at the rate equal to the overpayment rate set by the commissioner of taxation and finance pursuant to subsection (e) of section one thousand ninety-six of tax law. A pro rata share of such interest shall be paid by the contractor or subcontractor, as the case may be, to subcontractors materialmen in a proportion equal to the percentage of their pro rata share of the contract payment. Such pro rata share of interest shall due to such subcontractors and materialmen only for those payments which paid to such subcontractors and materialmen prior to the date upon which interest begins to accrue between the public owner and contractor. Such pro rata shares of interest shall be computed daily until such payments are made to the subcontractors and materialmen.
- (c) For projects of a public owner other than the city of New York, if state funds directly related to and which have been budgeted for the construction of the project for which the payment is due have not been received prior to the expiration of the thirty or forty-five days specified in paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the interest provided for in paragraph (b) of this subdivision shall not begin to accrue and payment shall not be due, until ten days after receipt of the state funds. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the public owner from approving the requisition, subject to receipt of the state funds. State funds shall mean monies provided to the public owner by the state, its officers, boards, departments, commissions, or a public authority and public benefit corporation, a majority of the members of which have been appointed by the governor or who serve as members by virtue of holding a civil office of the state, or a combination thereof.
- 2. Payment by [contractors] PUBLIC OWNERS to subcontractors. [Within seven calendar days of the receipt] (A) EACH SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL PERIODICALLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT, SUBMIT TO THE PUBLIC OWNER AND/OR HIS AGENT AND TO THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR HIS AGENT A

REOUISITION FOR A PROGRESS PAYMENT FOR THE WORK PERFORMED AND/OR MATERI-ALS FURNISHED TO THE DATE OF THE REQUISITION, LESS ANY AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY 3 PAID TO THE CONTRACTOR. AT THE TIME of any payment [from] BY the public owner[,] TO the contractor AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS 5 SECTION, THE PUBLIC OWNER shall pay each of [his] THE subcontractors and 6 materialman the proceeds from the payment representing the value of the 7 work performed and/or materials furnished by the subcontractor and/or materialmen and reflecting the percentage of the subcontractor's work 8 completed or the materialmen's material supplied in the requisition 9 10 approved by the owner and based upon the actual value of the subcontract 11 or purchase order less an amount necessary to satisfy any claims, liens judgments against the subcontractor or materialman which have not 12 been suitably discharged and less any retained amount as hereafter 13 14 described. [Failure by the contractor to make any payment, including any remaining amounts of the contract balance as hereinafter described, to 15 any subcontractor or materialman within seven calendar days of the 16 receipt of any payment from the public owner shall result in the 17 18 commencement and accrual of interest on amounts due to such subcontractor or materialman for the period beginning on the day immediately 19 following the expiration of such seven calendar day period and ending on 20 21 the date on which payment is made by the contractor to such subcontracor materialman. Such interest shall be the sole responsibility of 22 23 the contractor, and shall be paid at the rate of interest in effect on date payment is made by the contractor. Notwithstanding any other 24 25 provision of law to the contrary, interest shall be computed at the rate 26 established in paragraph (b) of subdivision one of section seven hundred 27 fifty-six-b of the general business law. The contractor shall retain not 28 more than five per centum of each payment to the subcontractor 29 materialman except that the contractor may retain in excess of five per centum but not more than ten per centum of each payment to the subcon-30 tractor provided that prior to entering into a subcontract with the 31 32 contractor, the subcontractor is unable or unwilling to provide a 33 performance bond and a labor and material bond both in the full amount 34 of the subcontract at the request of the contractor. However, the 35 shall retain nothing from those payments representing contractor 36 proceeds owed the subcontractor and/or materialman from the public owner's payments to the contractor for the remaining amounts of the 37 38 contract balance as provided in subdivision one of this section. If the 39 contractor has failed to submit a requisition for payment of the remain-40 amounts of the contract balance within ninety days of substantial completion as provided in subdivision one of this section, then 41 clause in the subcontract between the contractor and the subcontractor 42 43 or materialman which states that payment by the contractor to 44 subcontractor or materialman is contingent upon payment by the owner to 45 the contractor shall be deemed invalid. Within seven calendar days of receipt of payment from the contractor, the subcontractor and/or 46 47 materialman shall pay each of his subcontractors and materialmen in 48 same manner as the contractor has paid the subcontractor, including 49 interest as herein provided above. Nothing provided herein shall create 50 any obligation on the part of the public owner to pay or to see to 51 payment of any moneys to any subcontractor or material man from any 52 contractor nor shall anything provided herein serve to create any relationship in contract or otherwise, implied or expressed, between the 53 54 subcontractor or materialman and the public owner.] THE PUBLIC OWNER 55 SHALL RETAIN NOT MORE THAN FIVE PER CENTUM OF EACH PROGRESS PAYMENT SUBCONTRACTOR EXCEPT THAT THE PUBLIC OWNER MAY RETAIN IN EXCESS OF 56 THE

FIVE PER CENTUM BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN PER CENTUM OF EACH PROGRESS PAYMENT TO THE SUBCONTRACTOR PROVIDED THAT THERE ARE NO REQUIREMENTS BY THE PUBLIC OWNER FOR THE SUBCONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE A PERFORMANCE BOND AND A LABOR AND MATERIAL BOND BOTH IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT. THE PUBLIC OWNER SHALL PAY, UPON REQUISITION FROM THE CONTRACTOR AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, FOR MATERIALS PERTINENT TO PROJECT WHICH HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE SITE OR OFF-SITE BY THE SUBCON-7 TRACTOR AND SUITABLY STORED AND SECURED AS REQUIRED BY THE PUBLIC OWNER 8 AND THE SUBCONTRACTOR PROVIDED, THE PUBLIC OWNER MAY LIMIT SUCH PAYMENT 9 10 TO MATERIALS IN SHORT AND/OR CRITICAL SUPPLY AND MATERIALS SPECIALLY FABRICATED FOR THE PROJECT EACH AS DEFINED IN THE CONTRACT. WHEN 11 12 WORK OR MAJOR PORTIONS THEREOF AS CONTEMPLATED BY THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT ARE SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED, THE SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT 13 14 THE CONTRACTOR AND/OR HIS OR HER AGENT A REQUISITION FOR PAYMENT OF THE REMAINING AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT BALANCE. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT A 15 CONTRACT REQUISITION CONTAINING ALL REQUISITIONS FROM SUBCONTRACTORS TO 16 THE PUBLIC OWNER. UPON RECEIPT OF SUCH REQUISITION THE PUBLIC OWNER 17 SHALL APPROVE AND PROMPTLY PAY THE REMAINING AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT 18 19 BALANCE LESS TWO TIMES THE VALUE OF ANY REMAINING ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED AND AN AMOUNT NECESSARY TO SATISFY ANY CLAIMS, LIENS OR JUDGMENTS 20 21 AGAINST THE SUBCONTRACTOR WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SUITABLY DISCHARGED. AS THE REMAINING ITEMS OF WORK ARE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED OR CORRECTED, THE PUBLIC OWNER SHALL PROMPTLY PAY, UPON RECEIPT OF A REQUISITION, FOR 23 THESE REMAINING ITEMS LESS AN AMOUNT NECESSARY TO SATISFY ANY CLAIMS, 24 25 LIENS OR JUDGMENTS AGAINST THE SUBCONTRACTOR WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SUIT-26 ABLY DISCHARGED. ANY CLAIMS, LIENS AND JUDGMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS 27 SECTION SHALL PERTAIN TO THE PROJECT AND SHALL BE FILED IN ACCORDANCE 28 WITH THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE CONTRACT AND/OR APPLICABLE LAWS.

29 (B) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "SUBCONTRACTOR" MEANS ONLY THOSE SUBCON-30 TRACTORS THAT REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE MAIN CONTRACTOR WITH WHOM THE 31 PUBLIC OWNER HAS ENTERED INTO THE CONTRACT, AND DOES NOT INCLUDE SUBCON-32 TRACTORS OF SUBCONTRACTORS.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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