S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

6959--A

I N S E N A T E

March 10, 2016

Introduced by Sens. PARKER, KENNEDY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to creating a comprehensive website of small business and minority and women-owned business enterprise assistance

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

Section 1. The economic development law is amended by adding a new section 103-a to read as follows:

S 103-A. COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE OF SMALL BUSINESS AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE ASSISTANCE. 1. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW ALL EXISTING MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE WEBSITES, REGISTRIES AND/OR DIRECTORIES THAT ARE MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY OFFERING INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND SHALL CONSOLIDATE SUCH WEBSITES, REGISTRIES AND DIRECTORIES INTO ONE COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE. SUCH COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE SHALL BE A ONE-STOP SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAINTAIN THE FORMAT AND CONTENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE AND SHALL UPDATE SUCH COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE AS OFTEN AS FEASIBLE.

2. THE COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

(A) INFORMATION ON ALL STATE, FEDERAL, PRIVATE AND NON-PROFIT TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND SMALL BUSINESSES. SUCH INFORMATION SHALL BE SEARCHABLE BY: (I) PROGRAM NAME; (II) TYPE OF FINANCIAL OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; AND (III) WHETHER ASSISTANCE IS OFFERED TO SMALL BUSINESSES OR MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES. EACH PROGRAM LISTED SHALL CONTAIN IDENTIFYING INFORMATION INCLUDING A PROGRAM DESCRIPTION, THE TYPE OF ASSISTANCE OFFERED, INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION TO SUCH PROGRAM, THE DEADLINE FOR SUCH APPLICATION, THE NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE

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

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NUMBER OF A CONTACT PERSON AT SUCH STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY OR PRIVATE FOUNDATION OFFERING SUCH ASSISTANCE, AND IN THE CASE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THE AMOUNT OF SUCH ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE AND THE SOURCE OF FUNDS;

(B) INFORMATION ON ALL STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES OFFERING ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES INCLUDING THE NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER OF A CONTACT PERSON AT SUCH AGENCY;

(C) A SEARCHABLE, CENTRALIZED STATE DATABASE OF SAMPLES OF ELECTRONIC COPIES OF APPLICATIONS, PROPOSALS AND FORMS SUBMITTED BY SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES AND ACCEPTED AND APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REDACT ANY INFORMATION IN SUCH APPLICATIONS, PROPOSALS AND FORMS AND ANY OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AS REQUIRED BY LAW AND MAY, IN ITS DISCRETION, REDACT ANY OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN SUCH APPLICATIONS, PROPOSALS, AND FORMS AND ANY OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN ORDER TO PREVENT AN UNWARRANTED INVASION OF PRIVACY;

(D) A METHOD FOR THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION (I) OF INFORMATION BY PROGRAMS OFFERING ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND (II) OF ANY APPLICATIONS, PROPOSALS, FORMS OR OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT BY SMALL BUSINESSES AND MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES; AND

(E) A LINK TO CENSUS DATA FROM THE MOST RECENT UNITED STATES CENSUS.

3. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

4. THE COMPREHENSIVE WEBSITE CREATED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.