

3193

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

January 23, 2009

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Introduced by M. of A. WEPRIN, MORELLE, CHRISTENSEN, KOON, MILLMAN, HEASTIE, J. RIVERA, POWELL, ROBINSON, TITUS, SCHROEDER, WRIGHT, REILICH -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BENEDETTO, BOYLAND, CAHILL, CLARK, COLTON, DESTITO, FITZPATRICK, GLICK, GREENE, HOYT, JACOBS, LENTOL, MAGEE, PEOPLES, PERRY, PHEFFER, QUINN, N. RIVERA, P. RIVERA, SCARBOROUGH, SWEENEY, TOWNS, WEISENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Small Business

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to creating the micro business outreach center assistance program

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

1     Section 1. The economic development law is amended by adding a new  
2     article 9-B to read as follows:

3                                   ARTICLE 9-B

4                   MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
5     SECTION 216. DEFINITIONS.

6                 217. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS.

7                 218. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK.

8                 219. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

9     S 216. DEFINITIONS. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE THE FOLLOWING  
10    TERMS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

11     1. "MICRO BUSINESS" SHALL MEAN A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, PARTNERSHIP OR  
12     FAMILY BUSINESS THAT HAS FEWER THAN FIVE EMPLOYEES.

13     2. "MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS" SHALL MEAN A BUSINESS OUTREACH  
14     CENTER THAT SERVES THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF SPECIFIC COMMUNI-  
15     TIES.

16     3. "MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK" SHALL MEAN A NETWORK OF  
17     BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS THAT PROVIDES SERVICES THROUGHOUT A REGION AND  
18     HELPS DEVELOP AND ASSIST INDIVIDUAL MICRO-ENTERPRISE/SMALL BUSINESS  
19     DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE DELIVERY OF CUSTOMIZED BUSINESS  
20     SERVICES TO ENTREPRENEURS, AS WELL AS CAPACITY-BUILDING SERVICES TO

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

LBD06936-01-9

1 ORGANIZATIONS ESTABLISHING AND OPERATING COMMUNITY AND MICRO-ENTERPRISE  
2 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

3 S 217. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS. 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED  
4 WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT A MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER ASSISTANCE  
5 PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED, WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED, TO  
6 PROVIDE DIRECT TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MICRO BUSINESS  
7 OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, FOR THE FOLLOWING  
8 ACTIVITIES:

9 (A) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER IN SETTING UP, OR TO  
10 ASSIST THE CENTER IN HELPING LOCAL SPONSOR ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR NEW  
11 ORGANIZATIONS TO SET UP ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS, IN  
12 GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE THAT ARE WIDELY-SEPARATED FROM EACH OTHER  
13 BUT ARE IN NEED OF, AND WOULD LIKELY BENEFIT FROM, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
14 SUCH CENTER;

15 (B) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER IN PROVIDING AID FOR  
16 THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
17 CENTERS SO CREATED AS WELL AS FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ITS  
18 PRESENTLY EXISTING AFFILIATED MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS; AND

19 (C) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER TO EXPAND THE  
20 CENTER'S COORDINATION OF NETWORKING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES  
21 AMONG ALL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS.

22 2. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE MONIES, WITHIN AVAILABLE APPROPRI-  
23 ATIONS, IN RESPONSE TO A COMMUNITY NEED FOR THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
24 CENTERS NETWORK. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR SELECTION  
25 AND DESIGNATION OF SUCH MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS WHICH SHALL  
26 INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

27 (A) COMMUNITIES THAT ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY AND/OR SOCIALLY ISOLATED FROM  
28 THE MAINSTREAM ECONOMY;

29 (B) A COORDINATED NETWORK OF CLIENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, REGIONAL  
30 LINKAGES, AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES;

31 (C) A MODEL THAT MAXIMIZES THE EFFICIENT USE OF SCARCE EXISTING  
32 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES, ADDRESSES THE RECOGNIZED NEED FOR  
33 PRE-LOAN AND POST LOAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GROWING SMALL BUSINESS;

34 (D) FACILITATING ACCESS TO THE COMPLEX INFRASTRUCTURE OF ECONOMIC  
35 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES, CONNECTING SMALL BUSI-  
36 NESS TO NEEDED INFORMATION AND CAPITAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

37 3. ASSISTANCE, SERVICES AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO  
38 PROPERLY CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTIONS, POWERS, AND DUTIES UNDER THIS ARTICLE  
39 SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME, THE  
40 COMMISSIONER MAY REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER AGENCIES AND PUBLIC  
41 CORPORATIONS AND DISTRICTS.

42 S 218. MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK. 1. THERE IS HEREBY  
43 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT A MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER  
44 NETWORK. THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED TO  
45 PROVIDE DIRECT TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MICRO BUSINESS  
46 OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, FOR THE FOLLOWING  
47 ACTIVITIES:

48 (A) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK IN SETTING  
49 UP, OR TO ASSIST THE CENTER IN HELPING LOCAL SPONSOR ORGANIZATIONS  
50 AND/OR NEW ORGANIZATIONS TO SET UP ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
51 CENTERS, IN GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE STATE THAT ARE WIDELY-SEPARATED FROM  
52 EACH OTHER BUT ARE IN NEED OF, AND WOULD LIKELY BENEFIT FROM, THE ESTAB-  
53 LISHMENT OF SUCH CENTER;

54 (B) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK IN PROVIDING  
55 AID FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ADDITIONAL MICRO BUSINESS  
56 OUTREACH CENTERS SO CREATED AS WELL AS FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

1 OF ITS PRESENTLY EXISTING AFFILIATED MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS;  
2 AND

3 (C) TO ASSIST THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK TO EXPAND THE  
4 CENTER'S COORDINATION OF NETWORKING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES  
5 AMONG ALL MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS.

6 2. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE MONIES, WITHIN AVAILABLE APPROPRI-  
7 ATIONS, IN RESPONSE TO A COMMUNITY NEED FOR THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH  
8 CENTERS NETWORK. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR SELECTION  
9 AND DESTINATION OF SUCH MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS WHICH SHALL  
10 INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

11 (A) COMMUNITIES THAT ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY AND/OR SOCIALLY ISOLATED FROM  
12 THE MAINSTREAM ECONOMY;

13 (B) A COORDINATED NETWORK OF CLIENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, REGIONAL  
14 LINKAGES, AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES;

15 (C) A MODEL THAT MAXIMIZES THE EFFICIENT USE OF SCARCE EXISTING  
16 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES, ADDRESSES THE RECOGNIZED NEED FOR  
17 PRE-LOAN AND POST LOAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GROWING SMALL BUSINESS;

18 (D) FACILITATING ACCESS TO THE COMPLEX INFRASTRUCTURE OF ECONOMIC  
19 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES, CONNECTING SMALL BUSI-  
20 NESS TO NEEDED INFORMATION AND CAPITAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

21 3. ASSISTANCE, SERVICES AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO  
22 PROPERLY CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTIONS, POWERS, AND DUTIES UNDER THIS ARTICLE  
23 SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME, THE  
24 COMMISSIONER MAY REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER AGENCIES AND PUBLIC  
25 CORPORATIONS AND DISTRICTS.

26 S 219. REPORTING REQUIREMENT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MONITOR THE EFFEC-  
27 TIVENESS OF THE DIRECT TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IT PROVIDES TO  
28 THE MICRO BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER NETWORK, INCORPORATED, IN ORDER TO  
29 DETERMINE AND REPORT TO WHAT EXTENT THE GOALS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION  
30 HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL MAKE AND FILE AN ANNUAL  
31 REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND SPEAKER OF  
32 THE ASSEMBLY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF THE STATE'S  
33 FISCAL YEAR CONTAINING THE RESULTS OF SUCH MONITORING PURSUANT TO THIS  
34 SECTION. SUCH ANNUAL REPORT SHALL CONTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER  
35 LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE IF IN THE JUDGMENT  
36 OF THE COMMISSIONER NEW LEGISLATION TO FURTHER EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSES  
37 OF THIS ARTICLE IS WARRANTED.

38 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
39 it shall have become a law.