

10445

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 29, 2012

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

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to creating the innovators corps within the executive department to identify and encourage the growth of technology businesses in New York state

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

1 Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new article 44-A  
2 to read as follows:

3 ARTICLE 44-A

4 INNOVATORS CORPS

5 SECTION 945. INNOVATORS CORPS; CREATION.

6 S 945. INNOVATORS CORPS; CREATION. 1. THERE IS HEREBY CREATED WITHIN  
7 THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT A DIVISION TO BE KNOWN AS THE "INNOVATORS  
8 CORPS". SUCH DIVISION SHALL BE A RESEARCH GROUP CONSISTING OF FOUR  
9 PRIMARY MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WHO SHALL SERVE AS TRAVELING  
10 REPRESENTATIVES, AND ADDITIONAL STAFF AS THE GOVERNOR AND THE PRIMARY  
11 MEMBERS MAY DEEM NECESSARY.

12 2. THE FOUR PRIMARY MEMBERS SHALL HAVE SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE AND  
13 EDUCATION IN VARIOUS AREAS OF BUSINESS PRACTICE, AS WELL AS FLUENCY IN  
14 FOREIGN LANGUAGES. SUCH MEMBERS SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE  
15 GOVERNOR.

16 3. THE PURPOSE OF THE DIVISION SHALL BE TO IDENTIFY HIGH-TECH INDUS-  
17 TRIES WHICH ARE WELL SUITED TO PARTICULAR REGIONS OF THE STATE AND TO  
18 IDENTIFY AND TARGET SPECIFIC BUSINESS ENTITIES WITHIN THOSE INDUSTRIES  
19 WHICH ARE READY AND POISED FOR EXPANSION. THE DIVISION WILL FOCUS ON  
20 WAYS TO ATTRACT HIGH-TECHNOLOGY DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESSES  
21 AND JOBS TO NEW YORK STATE. THE MEMBERS OF THE DIVISION SHOULD ALSO  
22 ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN CONTACTS AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH HIGH-TECH BUSI-  
23 NESSES CURRENTLY OPERATING IN THIS STATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENCOURAGING  
24 AND SUPPORTING THOSE BUSINESSES WHICH ARE LOOKING TO EXPAND TO DO SO IN  
25 NEW YORK.

26 4. THE DIVISION SHALL DEVELOP A LIST OF BUSINESS RESOURCES WITHIN NEW  
27 YORK STATE INCLUDING:

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

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- 1 (A) "SHOVEL READY" SITES;
- 2 (B) NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY;
- 3 (C) COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES;
- 4 (D) TAX INCENTIVES; AND
- 5 (E) WORKFORCE.

6 5. THE DIVISION SHALL ATTEMPT TO CONDUCT INTERVIEWS AND GATHER INFOR-  
7 MATION FROM BUSINESSES WHICH ARE DOWN-SIZING, CLOSING, CEASING FUNCTIONS  
8 OR OPERATIONS OR RELOCATING OUTSIDE OF NEW YORK, TO IDENTIFY ISSUES,  
9 CAUSES AND OBSTACLES TO SUCCESS, INCLUDING STATE LAWS, REGULATIONS AND  
10 DISINCENTIVES TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THIS STATE.

11 6. THE DIVISION SHALL RECEIVE APPROPRIATIONS SUFFICIENT TO ENABLE IT  
12 TO CARRY OUT ITS PURPOSES AND DUTIES UNDER THIS ARTICLE, INCLUDING TRAV-  
13 EL EXPENSES NECESSARY TO PROVIDE MEMBERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY FOR  
14 PERSONAL INTERACTION WITH FOREIGN BUSINESS OWNERS, IN ORDER TO PROMOTE  
15 THE BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO BUSINESSES IN NEW YORK STATE.

16 7. THE DIVISION SHALL PREPARE MONTHLY REPORTS TO THE GOVERNOR AND AN  
17 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE. EACH REPORT SHALL INCLUDE: BUSINESSES  
18 AND INDUSTRIES THAT IT HAS TARGETED; SPECIFIC BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OR  
19 EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES; JOB GROWTH INFORMATION; ANALYSIS AND INFORMA-  
20 TION ELICITED FROM BUSINESSES TERMINATING OR LEAVING THE STATE; AND  
21 AREAS IDENTIFIED WHERE NEW YORK CAN IMPROVE ITS BUSINESS CLIMATE.

22 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the members  
23 of the innovators corps created pursuant to section one of this act  
24 shall be appointed no later than ninety days after such effective date.