

2158

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 14, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. HEVESI -- read once and referred to the Committee
on Small Business

AN ACT to amend the economic development law, in relation to directing
the division for small business to maintain a small business portal on
the department of economic development internet website

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

1 Section 1. Subdivisions 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of section 134 of the
2 economic development law, subdivision 7 as added by chapter 547 of the
3 laws of 1976, subdivision 8 as amended and subdivision 11 as added by
4 chapter 361 of the laws of 2009, subdivision 9 as amended by chapter 490
5 of the laws of 1993, subdivision 10 as added by chapter 543 of the laws
6 of 2002, are amended and a new subdivision 12 is added to read as
7 follows:
8 7. review pending legislation affecting small-businesses and report
9 its findings to the commissioner; [and]
10 8. initiate and encourage small-business education programs in general
11 and to coordinate with the functions of the office of general services
12 an information and outreach program directed toward informing small-bu-
13 sinesses in the state of procedures necessary for competing for state
14 purchases and to coordinate with the functions of every state agency,
15 department or authority described in section one hundred thirty-nine-g
16 of the state finance law, pursuant to subdivision (b) of section one
17 hundred thirty-nine-g of the state finance law, an information and
18 outreach program directed toward informing small-businesses in the state
19 of procedures necessary for competing for state contracts, including
20 without limitation educating small contractors about surety bonding
21 requirements on state contracts, and identifying resources available to
22 such contractors in obtaining their first bond and in increasing their
23 bonding capacity, including but not limited to the federal small busi-
24 ness administration bond guarantee program[.];

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

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1 9. the commissioner and the commissioners of agriculture and markets
2 and the office of general services shall initiate and encourage small-
3 business education programs and coordinate with the functions of the
4 office of general services, pursuant to subdivision [(b)] SIX of section
5 one hundred [sixty-one-b] SIXTY-THREE of the state finance law, an
6 information and outreach program directed toward informing eligible
7 businesses in the state of procedures necessary for competing for
8 purchases of food products pursuant to SUBDIVISION FOUR OF section one
9 hundred [seventy-four-a] SIXTY-FIVE of the state finance law and subdivi-
10 sion eight-a of section one hundred three of the general municipal
11 law, and to coordinate with the functions of every state agency or
12 department described in subdivision (b) of section one hundred thirty-
13 nine-g of the state finance law, an information and outreach program
14 directed toward informing eligible businesses in the state of procedures
15 necessary for competing for contracts for the purchase of food products
16 pursuant to SUBDIVISION FOUR OF section one hundred [seventy-four-a]
17 SIXTY-FIVE of the state finance law and subdivision eight-a of section
18 one hundred three of the general municipal law[.];

19 10. conduct a survey of all business incubators in the state and
20 assess the need for additional incubator facilities to nurture the
21 growth and development of small businesses[.];

22 11. provide assistance to small business in the state, and facilitate
23 access to programs serving small business, to ensure that such busi-
24 nesses benefit, as needed, from technical, managerial, financial, and
25 general business assistance; training; marketing; organization and
26 personnel skill development; project management assistance; technology
27 assistance; bond and insurance education assistance; and other business
28 development assistance. In addition, either independently or in conjunc-
29 tion with other state agencies:

30 (a) develop a clearinghouse of information on programs and services
31 provided by entities that may assist such businesses; and

32 (b) seek to maximize utilization by small businesses of available
33 federal resources including but not limited to federal grants, loans,
34 loan guarantees, surety bonding guarantees, technical assistance, and
35 programs and services of the federal small business administration[.];
36 AND

37 12. MAINTAIN A SMALL BUSINESS PORTAL ON THE DEPARTMENT'S INTERNET
38 WEBSITE. SUCH PORTAL SHALL BE A ONE-STOP SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON
39 ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES. THE PORTAL SHALL PROVIDE EXISTING AND
40 PROSPECTIVE SMALL BUSINESSES WITH INFORMATION ON SERVICES PROVIDED BY
41 LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES, INCLUDING ASSISTANCE WITH AND
42 PROVISION OF ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS AND PERMIT RENEWALS,
43 FINANCING, TAX EXEMPTIONS, RELOCATION AND PROPERTY ACQUISITION, LOCATING
44 AND TRAINING EMPLOYEES, HEALTH AND BUSINESS INSURANCE, ENVIRONMENTAL
45 COMPLIANCE, OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESS
46 ENTITIES AND ISSUES FACING VETERAN OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES.

47 S 2. The opening paragraph of section 135 of the economic development
48 law is designated subdivision 1 and a new subdivision 2 is added to read
49 as follows:

50 2. ANY DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, BOARD, BUREAU, COMMISSION OR OTHER AGENCY
51 SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION SHALL ALSO
52 PROVIDE SUCH ASSISTANCE, SERVICES AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE DIVISION
53 FOR SMALL BUSINESS TO PROPERLY CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER
54 SUBDIVISION TWELVE OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR OF THIS ARTICLE,
55 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE MAINTENANCE OF THE SMALL BUSINESS WEB
56 PORTAL AND THE PROVISION OF LINKS TO RELEVANT AGENCY WEBSITES.

1 S 3. The division for small business shall periodically assess the
2 extent to which the small business web portal provided for in subdivi-
3 sion 12 of section 134 of the economic development law is serving the
4 needs of existing and prospective owners and operators of small busi-
5 nesses, through such measures as user surveys, online feedback and
6 soliciting input from the advisory board provided for in section 133 of
7 the economic development law. Such division shall update the services
8 offered through such portal to reflect additional needed services iden-
9 tified through such assessments.
10 S 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
11 it shall have become a law.