

5324

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

May 5, 2011

Introduced by Sen. ROBACH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Commerce, Economic Development and 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 ASSEMBLY, 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

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

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1 bonding capacity, including but not limited to the federal small busi-
2 ness administration bond guarantee program[.];

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

52 2. ANY DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, BOARD, BUREAU, COMMISSION OR OTHER AGENCY
53 SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION SHALL ALSO
54 PROVIDE SUCH ASSISTANCE, SERVICES AND DATA AS WILL ENABLE THE DIVISION
55 FOR SMALL BUSINESS TO PROPERLY CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER
56 SUBDIVISION TWELVE OF SECTION ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR OF THIS ARTICLE,

1 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE MAINTENANCE OF THE SMALL BUSINESS WEB
2 PORTAL AND THE PROVISION OF LINKS TO RELEVANT AGENCY WEBSITES.

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

12 S 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
13 it shall have become a law.